Informed consent: patient information

Melbourne Ultrasound for Women

A copy of this form should be given to the patient/substitute decision-maker to read carefully and allow time to ask any questions about the procedure. The consent form and patient information sheet should be included in the patient's medical record.

What is a HyCoSy and how will this procedure help me?

Hysterosalpingo Contrast Sonography (HyCoSy) is a minimally invasive diagnostic imaging procedure used to evaluate the fallopian tubes and uterine cavity. It involves the use of ultrasound imaging along with a contrast medium to visualize the reproductive structures and assess any potential abnormalities.

HyCoSy is typically performed to identify any potential blockages, abnormalities, or issues within the fallopian tubes and uterus. It is commonly used in infertility evaluations to help identify the cause of difficulty in conception.

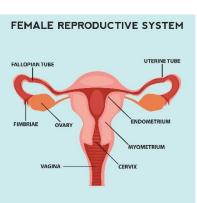
Benefits of HyCoSy:

- Non-invasive procedure
- Provides real-time imaging of the uterus and fallopian tubes
- Can help identify potential causes of infertility or reproductive issues
- Does not require anesthesia

Preparing for the Procedure:

Our team will provide you with comprehensive instructions to ensure you are well-prepared for your scan and procedure. To undergo the procedure safely, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Communicate about Infections**: If you have an active sexually transmitted infection or a pelvic infection, it's important to discuss this with our staff prior to the procedure.
- **Pregnancy Status:** For your safety, it's crucial not to be pregnant before undergoing the procedure. This precaution is taken to avoid any risk associated with flushing out a potential pregnancy.



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Timing:

The procedure is typically scheduled during the early phase of your menstrual cycle, usually within the first ten days after the onset of your period. This timing is selected because the uterine lining is thinner during this period, which enhances visualization during the procedure.

Procedure Overview:

During a HyCoSy Procedure:

- **Bladder Emptying:** Prior to the procedure, we'll ask you to empty your bladder. This step enhances your comfort during the imaging process.
- **Preparation and Positioning:** You will be provided with a gown to change into. Once you're ready, you'll lie down on an ultrasound table.
- **Instrument Placement**: A speculum, similar to the one used during a pap smear, will be gently inserted into your vagina to ensure clear visibility of your cervix.
- **Contrast Introduction:** A small catheter will then be placed into your cervix. We will introduce a contrast substance called ExemFoam through the catheter. You might experience mild discomfort when the catheter is inserted, and you might feel mild period-like pain when the contrast flows through your fallopian tubes.
- **Ultrasound Imaging**: An ultrasound transducer will be carefully inserted into the vagina to capture images, which will be subsequently reviewed.
- **Procedure Conclusion:** At the end of the procedure, the speculum, catheter, and ultrasound transducer (if used) will be gently removed.

Post-Procedure Guidelines:

Patients can usually resume their normal activities after the procedure. You may have 'spot bleeding' and/or slight watery discharge and will need to wear a sanitary pad (not a tampon). You may have mild abdominal pain for 1 to 2 days after the procedure. Tablets such as paracetamol/Panadol may be taken to relieve mild abdominal pain.

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Considerations:

While HyCoSy is generally safe, there are potential risks and considerations:

- Discomfort: Some patients may experience mild discomfort, cramping, or pain during or after the procedure. Overthe-counter pain relief can help alleviate these symptoms.
- 2. **Procedure Challenges:** Technical difficulties might arise, leading to incomplete contrast flow or unclear imaging.
- Accuracy Limitations: While HyCoSy can identify a range of issues, it may not detect all problems with absolute certainty.

What are the risks?

In recommending the Hysterosalpingogram or HyCoSy procedure, the doctor believes the benefits to you from having this procedure exceed the risks involved. The risks and complications with this procedure can include but are not limited to the following.

Common risks and complications include:

- Bleeding from vagina, this usually resolves on its own.
- Dizziness or feeling faint, this usually resolves with bed rest.

Less common risks and complications include:

- Infection, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Damage to fallopian tubes, requiring corrective surgery.
- The procedure may not be possible due to medical and/or technical reasons.

Rare risks and complications include:

• Allergic reaction to the Contrast. This could result in a rash, hives, itching, nausea, fainting or shortness of breath.

Who will be performing the procedure?

This procedure is performed by Dr Victor Hurley. He is a sonologist registered obstetrician and gynaecologist who has undertaken additional sub-specialty training and qualifications in performing and making diagnoses from ultrasound examinations and procedures.

Questions

Please ask the doctor/clinician if you do not understand any aspect of this patient information sheet or if you have any questions about your/the patient's medical condition, treatment options and proposed procedure/treatment/investigation/ examination.