

Sonohysterography

Information for patients



Welcome to Leeds Fertility. This booklet has been written to explain the purpose of sonohysterography.

You can find further information at:
www.leedsfertilityclinic.co.uk

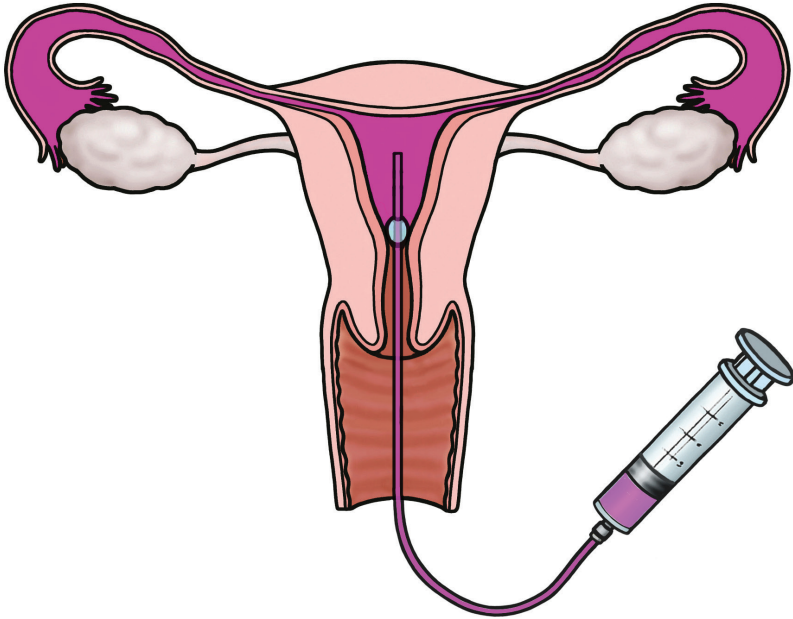
How to contact us:

Please see page 06 for urgent and non-urgent contact details.

What is saline sonohysterography?

This simple procedure is usually done in the ultrasound scan room in an out-patient environment. There is no need for pain relief or sedatives. A speculum is inserted in the vagina to see the neck of the womb (cervix), like for a smear test. The cervix is cleaned and a fine soft catheter is passed into the cavity of the womb. It will stay in place when a small balloon is filled with some fluid.

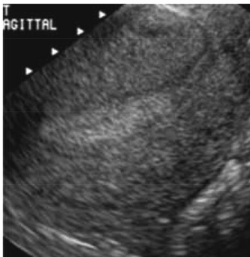
This prevents the saline fluid from leaking out. An internal scan allows the lining of the womb to be seen clearly whilst some warm saline (salt water) is passed through the soft catheter. Relevant measurements can then be taken.



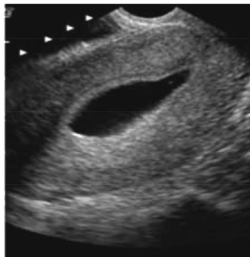
Why is this done?

Polyps and fibroids can interfere with successful implantation of an embryo and they may also increase the risk of miscarriage. If a polyp or a fibroid is suspected during a regular scan, this technique helps to confirm it and guide how to deal with the problem. If there has been previous womb or tubal surgery (for example removal of fibroids or removal of a fallopian tube) then the womb may be weakened. This can make pregnancy more dangerous. Sono-hysterography may be used to define such weakened areas so that strengthening treatment can be planned.

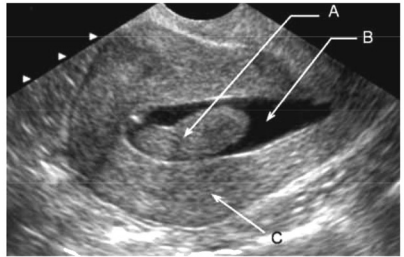
Examples of the procedure:



Before saline



After saline,
normal womb
cavity



After saline outlining
an abnormal polyp inside the
womb cavity

Are there any side effects or possible complications?

There may be some cramping lower abdominal discomfort similar to period type ache. This usually settles as soon as the procedure is finished which itself does not take more than 5 minutes to complete. Simple relief such as ibuprofen or Paracetamol can be useful. Rarely patients may feel faint during the procedure. This is usually related to the manipulation in the neck of the womb. The procedure would stop immediately and recovery is quick.

Occasionally the procedure is not successful because the fluid leaks too quickly to allow accurate measurements. This is rare.

Contact us

By post

- Leeds Fertility, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Seacroft Hospital, York Road, Leeds, LS14 6UH

By Email

- leedsth-tr.leedsrmenquiries@nhs.net

Online

- Web: www.leedsfertilityclinic.co.uk

By telephone

Mon-Fri 08.00-17.00

- For all NHS appointments: 0113 206 3100
- For clinical queries: 0113 206 3102

Sat-Sun 08.00-12.00

- Clinical queries only: 0113 206 3102

In an Emergency

During working hours

- Please call appointments or clinical queries as needed on the above numbers

Outside working hours

- Please call Leeds Teaching Hospitals Switchboard on **0113 243 3144** and request to be put through to the Duty Nurse / Dr for Leeds Fertility
- If necessary, attend your local Accident & Emergency department

