How can we help you?

The appointment needs to be between **Day 5 and Day 10 of your last menstrual period**. The examination cannot be performed if you are still bleeding or there is any possibility that you could be pregnant.

It is therefore essential that:

YOU REFRAIN FROM UNPROTECTED SEXUAL INTERCOUSE FROM THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR PERIOD UNTIL AFTER THIS EXAMINATION.

If you have any queries regarding this examination or your appointment please do not hesitate to telephone:

X-Ray appointments Lincoln 01522 573069 Grantham 01476 464285 Pilgrim 01205 364801 Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

How can you help us?

If you are unable to attend, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can give the appointment to another patient.

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.

If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille, please e-mail the Patient Information team at patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk



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Hysterosalpingogram

patient information about your procedure

X-Ray appointments

Lincoln County Hospital 01522 573069 Grantham District Hospital 01476 464285 Pilgrim Hospital 01205 364801

www.ulh.nhs.uk

Aim of the leaflet

This leaflet is aimed at women undergoing a hysterosalpingogram and explains the procedure.

What is a hysterosalpingogram?

This is an x-ray of the uterus and fallopian tubes. The procedure involves inserting a speculum into the vagina (similar to when you have a smear test). In order to see these organs, a small amount of x-ray dye (contrast medium) will then be introduced using a small catheter or cannula (tube). Pictures are taken as the dye fills the uterus and Fallopian tubes.



Will it hurt?

You will feel nothing from the x-rays themselves, but you may feel slight discomfort when the catheter or tube is inserted. You may also feel some period type cramp.

Who will perform the x-ray?

The procedure will be performed by either a Consultant Radiologist or a Specialist Radiographer who will introduce the dye and take the pictures.

There will also be a Radiographer and a nurse in the room to assist; they will also ensure that you are comfortable before and after the examination.

The x-ray images will be interpreted and the results will be sent to your Gynaecologist.

How long will it take?

You should be in the department for about 45 minutes. Please arrive at least 10 minutes before your appointment time. Please be patient if emergencies occur.

Will there be any after effects?

You may have a little cramp or tummy ache for a short while.

Post procedural care

You may get some slight spotting of blood (like at the end of a period). The dye is colourless but sticky.

The procedure is performed using an asceptic technique but as with many procedures there is a very small risk of infection, therefore, following the procedure if you experience any of the following, please consult your GP:

- abnormal vaginal smell or discharge
- an unexplained fever
- low abdominal pain

Please bring a sanitary towel or panty liner.

Please follow these instructions carefully

It is very important that you refrain from any unprotected sexual intercourse from the first day of your period until after the examination. If there is any chance that you could be pregnant it will not be possible to undertake the procedure.

Catheter through which dye is injected