



HyCoSy Tubal Patency Scan

What is a HyCoSy tubal patency scan?

HyCoSy is an ultrasound scan to test whether your fallopian tubes are open or not. It involves an internal (transvaginal) scan done while a dye is injected into the womb to see whether it passes through the fallopian tubes. The dye is injected through a very thin tube which is passed into the womb through the neck of the womb.

Why do I need this test?

Your doctor needs to check whether your fallopian tubes are open or not. In order to get pregnant naturally it is essential that the fallopian tubes are open and healthy. The egg and the sperms meet in the fallopian tubes where fertilisation happens.

What are the benefits of HyCoSy scan?

This method of testing the tubes is very safe. It does not require any surgery, anaesthetic or any exposure to radiations.

How is the HyCoSy scan done?

You will be seen by a nurse who will counsel you regarding the procedure and ask you for your consent. You will be asked to empty your bladder.

You will be expected to have done a home urine pregnancy test on the day and the nurse will ask you to confirm that you have been using barrier method of contraception (condom) since your last period to make sure that you are not carrying an early pregnancy. You are also expected to have taken a painkiller (two tablets of Ibuprofen 200mg if suitable) one hour prior to the procedure.

You will be made comfortable on an examination couch. A speculum (same instrument as used for a smear test) is passed into the vagina to visualise the neck of the womb. After cleaning the neck of the womb a very thin tube is passed into the womb. Following this an internal scan is performed while a milky fluid is injected into the womb. This milky fluid can be seen by the scan while it passes through the tubes to confirm whether the fallopian tubes are open or not.

What are the possible side effects?

Some women experience cramping pains during and after the procedure but these last only a few minutes. Rarely some women can feel dizzy or faint. We will look after you and make sure that you are well enough before you leave the clinic. There is a very small risk of infection and you are expected to have had appropriate swabs done prior to the procedure to rule out presence of infection.

When will I know the result and further plan?

The doctor doing the scan will tell you the result after the scan and may discuss further if there are any other findings on scan relevant to your treatment. A further management plan will also be made with you which may include booking you for a key hole surgery (Laparoscopy) if tubes seem blocked.