



Hysteroscopy

Outpatient Procedure



What is a hysteroscopy?

A hysteroscopy is a medical procedure to look at the inside of your uterus. It is performed using a fine telescope, called a hysteroscope, which is passed through the cervix.

Before the procedure

- Contraception should be used in the month before your hysteroscopy.
- **Arrange for a support person to be present after the procedure to drive you home.**
- A hysteroscopy cannot be performed if you have heavy bleeding at the time of your appointment. Confirm your appointment with the Booking Clerk - phone (08) 9340 1376 from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm.
- Pain relief is recommended to minimise any discomfort you may experience. Take ANY ONE of the following medications one hour before the procedure:
 - Panadeine - two tablets, or
 - Ibuprofen - two tablets.

How is it performed?

A hysteroscopy can be performed without a general anaesthetic and usually takes 20-30 minutes.

- You will be asked to lie on the examination bed.
- Your legs will be supported by stirrups.
- A speculum will be inserted into your vagina in order to view the cervix.
- Local anaesthetic and an antiseptic solution are applied to your cervix.
- The hysteroscope (pencil-thin telescope) is inserted through the cervix into the uterus. This enables the doctors to see the lining of the uterus and observe whether any abnormalities are present.
- Normal saline is flushed through at this time to ensure a clear view.
- Pictures of the inside of your uterus may be taken.
- A tissue sample may be taken and sent to pathology. You will be notified of the results in approximately three to four weeks.

After the procedure

It is normal to experience:

- cramp-like pain for a few hours and/or
- light vaginal bleeding for 24 to 48 hours.

Seek medical advice from your GP or KEMH Emergency Centre on (08) 9340 1433 if you experience:

- continuing abdominal pain,
- heavy bleeding, or
- any unusual vaginal discharge.

Compiled by:
Email:
Web site:

West Wing Clinic
ogccu@health.wa.gov.au
http://wchs.health.wa.gov.au

Produced by:
© November 2004
WCHS 0194

Women's and Children's Health Service

**King Edward Memorial Hospital
for Women**
374 Bagot Road
Subiaco WA 6008
Tel: (08) 9340 2222
Fax: (08) 9388 1780

**Princess Margaret Hospital
for Children**
Roberts Road
Subiaco WA 6008
Tel: (08) 9340 8222
Fax: (08) 9340 8111

Disclaimer: The advice and information contained herein is provided in good faith as a public service. However the accuracy of any statements made is not guaranteed and it is the responsibility of readers to make their own enquiries as to the accuracy, currency and appropriateness of any information or advice provided. Liability for any act or omission occurring in reliance on this document or for any loss, damage or injury occurring as a consequence of such act or omission is expressly disclaimed.