

**This instruction is intended for our patients who are in a care relationship.** The Wellbeing Services County of South West Finland. Turku University Hospital

## Tubal patency ultrasound

Evaluating the patency of the Fallopian tubes is performed by using Transvaginaalsonosalpingografi (TSSG), in which vaginal sonography is used to evaluate the status of the Fallopian tubes and the structure of the uterine cavity. This enables the identification of tubal patency or blockage as well as abnormalities of the uterine cavity, such as endometrial polyps, fibroids, and structural anomalies.

### Booking an appointment and preparing for the procedure

**You need to book an appointment** for the procedure during the first days of your menstrual bleeding from the fertility nurse. The assessment can be done early in the cycle once the bleeding has stopped. **The procedure will not be carried out during menstrual bleeding.**

No special preparations are required for the procedure. Please **take an anti-inflammatory medication** (ie. 400-800 mg ibuprofen) **about one hour prior to the procedure** to minimize the uterine contractions.

### How TSSG is performed

During the procedure, a thin catheter will be placed in the uterine cavity: Sterile saline and air bubbles will be passed alternatively through the catheter. Placing the catheter in the uterus may cause sensation similar to menstrual pain. The air and the saline form air bubbles, and we use a vaginal ultrasound to follow their movement into the Fallopian tubes. The structure and shape of the uterus and the ovaries can be evaluated at the same time. In a normal situation, the saline will collect behind the uterus. A suspicion of tubal factor infertility may rise if the travel of air bubbles appears abnormal and no saline appears behind the uterus.

### After the procedure

You may need some time to rest after the procedure. Typically there is no pain. You may feel a stinging sensation at your shoulder. We recommend that you use a sanitary pad, because blood-stained saline will pass from the vagina during the day of the procedure.

During your appointment, a treatment is made or a separate appointment at the outpatient clinic is made for that purpose.

If the amount of discharge increases or starts to smell foul or you have lower abdominal pain or fewer, please contact the outpatient clinic.

## Contact information

All communication can be done through **the My path -channel** after you have been registered as a user.

**Fertility nurse telephone 02 313 2343**, telephone times:

- Tuesday 1.00–1.30 pm
- Thursday 1.00–1.30 pm

**Gynaecological Outpatient telephone 02 313 1322**

- Secretary, appointment bookings, Monday–Friday at 1.00–3.00 pm