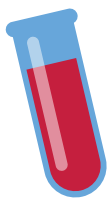


Your physician may ask you to complete certain investigations. Common tests in gynaecology are listed here. The particular tests you complete will depend on your conditions and symptoms.

These tests may help with:

- **Diagnosis**
- **Assessing condition severity**
- **Determining your anatomy prior to a possible surgery**



Blood Tests

Your physician may order different blood tests to help make a diagnosis or to ensure you are optimized for surgery. For example, a complete blood count (CBC) may be ordered and will measure your hemoglobin.



Imaging

Ultrasound

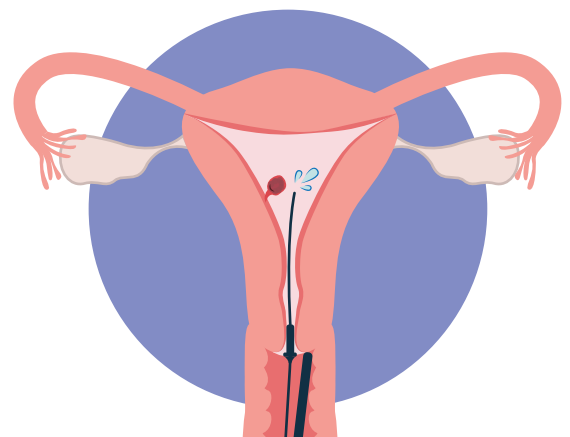
A pelvic ultrasound uses an external probe on your lower abdomen to provide images of your pelvic structures. A transvaginal ultrasound may be completed at the same time, with your consent. In this ultrasound, a probe is inserted into the vagina to better delineate the female reproductive organs.

Sonohysterogram

This is a procedure that typically involves insertion of a speculum followed by injection of fluid through the cervix and into the uterine cavity. An ultrasound is completed at the same time, which provides a more detailed assessment of your uterus. Specifically, this test will tell your doctor about whether there are any structures in the cavity of your uterus such as endometrial polyps or submucosal fibroids and how big they are.

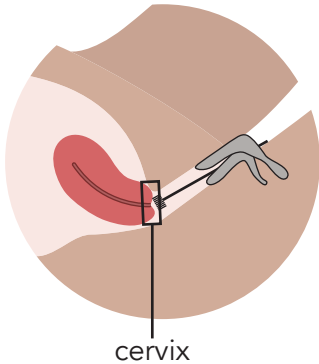
X-rays, CT scans and MRI

These are ordered by some doctors for some conditions. However, ultrasound is typically the best imaging test for the majority of patients.



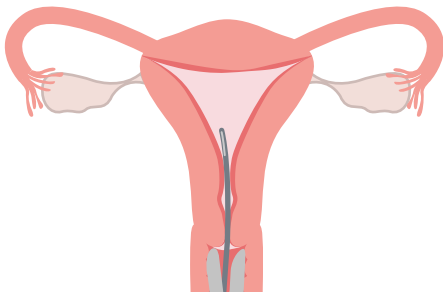
Sonohysterogram

Procedures



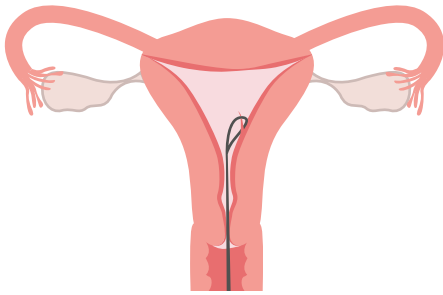
Pap Test

A pap test is an office procedure that involves a speculum examination. Your doctor will use a small brush to gently remove cells from the cervix so they can be checked for any precancerous or cancerous changes.



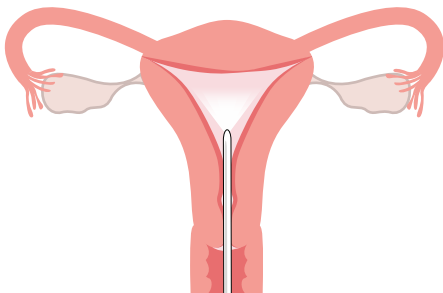
Endometrial Biopsy

A short office procedure during which a speculum is inserted into the vagina and a small pipelle is placed through the opening of the cervix, and into the uterus to take a sample of the lining of the uterus. Some people find this procedure uncomfortable and cannot tolerate having it done in the office. Your doctor may recommend a short procedure in the operating room under anesthesia instead.



Dilation and Curettage (D&C)

A slightly more thorough assessment of the tissue in the uterine cavity compared to an endometrial biopsy. This procedure is done in the operating room with anesthesia. It involves an instrument called a 'curette' being inserted into the uterus with a small sample of tissue taken from all walls of the uterine cavity. It may be performed on its own or possibly at the end of a hysteroscopy.



Hysteroscopy

This procedure, usually done in the operating room, involves a small camera being inserted through the vagina, cervix and into the uterus. Fluid is used to expand the cavity of the uterus. Hysteroscopy will let your doctor directly see the inside of the uterus. Your doctor may also take a sample of tissue under direct visualization.

References

1. Bradley LD. Overview of hysteroscopy. Up to Date. 2021 Nov 17.
2. Del Priore G. Endometrial sampling procedures. Up to Date. 2021 Feb 23.
3. Goldstein SR. Saline infusion sonohysterography. Up to Date. 2020 Oct 5.
4. Braaten KP, Dutton C. Dilation and curettage. Up to Date. 2020 Aug 18.

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