

**Patient
Information**

Laparoscopy and dye test

Introduction

This leaflet gives you information about infertility laparoscopy and dye test to check your pelvis and fallopian tubes.

What is laparoscopy?

A laparoscopy is a keyhole method used to examine inside your body. This test is done under a general anaesthetic (while you are asleep), usually as a day case.

What to expect before your procedure?

After your first consultation, you will be assessed to check that you are fit for the laparoscopy.

If you are on the pill, continue as normal. Please avoid unprotected intercourse during the month of your laparoscopy as if there is any chance that you might be pregnant the test would have to be cancelled.

If you think your period may clash with your laparoscopy date, please contact your consultant's secretary for advice.

What happens during the procedure?

The anaesthetist and a gynaecologist will see you before your keyhole surgery to answer any questions you may have.

The surgery takes about 15 minutes. A few small cuts are made below your belly button for the tubes to enter. This is to allow your womb and fallopian tubes to be examined. Dye is then flushed through to check the tubes are open.

Small dissolvable stitches are used when the surgeon has finished.

The findings will be explained to you before you go home.

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Possible complications

Recognised complications include:

- Damage to the bowel, bladder, womb or major blood vessels
- Failure to enter the abdomen
- Bruising

After the operation

You may have a sore throat or nausea from the anaesthetic. You will be given pain relief to help with this.

As mentioned the stitches will dissolve, but may be removed by the practice nurse at your GP's surgery if they irritate you.

You may take a bath or shower the next day.

Sexual relations can be resumed as soon as you are comfortable to do so.

When can I go back to work?

Most patients go back to work in 2 to 3 days, but some take longer. A sick note of up to a week can be given if needed.

A letter will be sent to you should you need a follow up appointment.

Contact information

If you have any questions, please contact the fertility nurses on the number below. Alternatively you can contact your own consultant's secretary.

Cotswold Fertility Unit

Tel: 0300 422 3128

Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Website: www.cotswoldfertilityunit.co.uk

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