

ABSTRACT

Comparison of paediatric 8-F Foley catheter with Leech-Wilkinson metal cannula For Hysterosalpingography

Objective: - To compare the modified hysterosalpingography (HSG) using paediatric 8-F Foley catheter with the traditional Leech-Wilkinson metal cannula method during infertility work-up.

Design: - A prospective, randomized, patient blinded, controlled study.

Setting: - Ward 14, Teaching Hospital, Ragama, Sri Lanka.

Sample: - Forty six infertile women undergoing HSG for evaluation of infertility were recruited

Intervention: - All women underwent HSG on the postmenstrual 8th day. After positioning cervix was exposed with a Cusco's bivalve speculum and cleansed with chlorhexidine solution. In the catheter group, 8-F Foley catheter was introduced with the help of an artery forceps and balloon was inflated. In cannula group the cervix was grasped with a vulsellum, and a Leech-Wilkinson cannula was screwed into the cervical canal. For both groups a sterile aqueous contrast medium injected under screening. Two films were taken, one during uterine and tubal filling and the other with early peritoneal spill.

Outcome measures: - Pain to the patient during and after the procedure, length of procedure, volume of contrast medium, level of difficulty to the performer and post procedure bleeding.

Main results: - Using the Foley catheter, compared with the metal cannula, the pain score during procedure was less (4.04 vs. 5.65; on a pain scale 1-10; $P < 0.05$), the volume of contrast medium was less (8.96ml vs. 16.46ml; $P < 0.001$), post procedure spotting at six hours was less ($p < 0.05$). No significant difference was found in duration of time taken for the procedure (11.42 vs. 9.76 minutes; $P > 0.05$) and difficulty to the performer was more (5.39 vs 4.26; on a scale 1-10; $P < 0.05$) with the Foley catheter.

Conclusion: - The Foley catheter method appears to cause less pain, less post procedure bleeding and has used reduced volume of contrast medium. Metal cannula method was easy to the performer. No significant difference in the duration of procedure.