

# Tubal flushing with oil-based contrast during HSG in subfertile women: Is early flushing effective and cost-effective as compared to delayed flushing?

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The aim of this study is to determine whether direct tubal flushing with oil-based contrast at HSG incorporated in the fertility work-up results in 10% more ongoing pregnancies and a shorter time to pregnancy, which will therefore be effective and...

|                              |                                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Ethical review</b>        | Approved WMO                         |
| <b>Status</b>                | Recruiting                           |
| <b>Health condition type</b> | Ovarian and fallopian tube disorders |
| <b>Study type</b>            | Interventional                       |

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON52895

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

H2Oil-timing study

### Condition

- Ovarian and fallopian tube disorders

### Synonym

testing whether the fallopian tubes are open, Tubal patency testing

### Research involving

Human

### Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Ministerie van OC&W,ZonMw,Guerbet

## Intervention

**Keyword:** - Hysterosalpingography, - Oil-based contrast, - Ongoing pregnancy, - Time-to-pregnancy

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Primary outcome is time to live birth within 6 and 12 months after randomization. Time to live birth within 6 months after randomization provides us information about the comparison on HSG with oil-based contrast performed during fertility work-up compared to no HSG. Time to live birth within 12 months after randomization provides information on the comparison of HSG with oil-based contrast during fertility work-up versus 6 months after completing fertility work-up. Our hypothesis is that tubal flushing at HSG with oil-based contrast incorporated in the fertility work-up will result in 10% more ongoing pregnancies and a shorter time to pregnancy, and thus reducing the need for ART and reducing costs.

### Secondary outcome

- Live birth
- Clinical pregnancy
- Ongoing pregnancy
- Miscarriage
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Multiple pregnancy
- Complications following HSG (infection, intravastion)

- Pregnancy outcomes (f.e. birth weight)
- Pregnancy complications
- Stillbirth
- Thyroid function of the woman (before and 1 month after HSG)
- Neonatal outcomes
- Additional fertility treatments (Intra-uterine insemination, IVF, IVF/ICSI)
- Direct and indirect costs within 12 months after randomization
- Thyroid function of neonate (determined by heelprick by RIVM)
- Level of pain and anxiety during HSG

## Study description

### Background summary

Staying childless, due to the inability to conceive, is one of life's great misfortunes. Infertility, defined as the inability to conceive within 1 year of unprotected intercourse, affects 1 out of 6 couples trying to get pregnant. The causes of infertility can be classified as anovulation, poor sperm quality and tubal pathology, with unexplained infertility as a large fourth segment. Fertility work-up generally includes an assessment of the (ovulatory) cycle, a semen analysis and an tubal patency test. This evaluation of the tubes can be done by several different tests, including a diagnostic laparoscopy, a hysterosalpingo-foam sonography or a hysterosalpingography (HSG). An HSG is the most widely used outpatient method for tubal patency testing during the fertility work-up.

Although HSG was introduced as a diagnostic test, it has been hypothesized for decades that tubal flushing at HSG in general, and specifically with oil contrast, directly increases pregnancy rates. However, the evidence for this fertility enhancement effect was lacking due to limited power of available studies. Therefore, our group completed a large randomized clinical trial (H2Oil study) comparing oil contrast or water contrast in infertile women undergoing HSG. This landmark study showed that tubal flushing with oil contrast resulted in a higher 6-month ongoing pregnancy rates than tubal flushing with water contrast (39.7% versus 29.1%) (RR 1.37, 95%CI 1.16-1.61) (Dreyer et al., 2017). The subsequent live-birth rate was also significantly higher.

Our findings have fueled the debate about the timing of HSG with oil-based contrast in the basic fertility work-up. One issue is that in our H2Oil trial the median duration of infertility of participating couples was 20 months. It is, however, unclear whether direct tubal flushing (preferably at 12 months unfulfilled child wish) with oil contrast work-up is beneficial. Direct tubal flushing with oil contrast as part of the fertility work-up might result in a shorter time to pregnancy compared to delayed tubal flushing 6 months after completion of fertility work-up.

## **Study objective**

The aim of this study is to determine whether direct tubal flushing with oil-based contrast at HSG incorporated in the fertility work-up results in 10% more ongoing pregnancies and a shorter time to pregnancy, which will therefore be effective and cost-effective compared to delayed tubal flushing 6 months after fertility work-up is completed in women at low risk for tubal pathology.

## **Study design**

We plan a multicentre randomized controlled trial with an economic analysis alongside it. Infertile women at low risk for tubal pathology will be randomized to direct tubal flushing with oil-based contrast incorporated in the fertility work-up or delayed tubal flushing 6 months after fertility work-up is completed.

## **Intervention**

Direct tubal flushing with oil-based contrast as part of the fertility work-up compared to delayed tubal flushing 6 months after the fertility work-up is completed.

## **Study burden and risks**

As we compare strategies (tubal flushing at HSG with oil-based contrast incorporated in the fertility work-up versus 6 months after completion of fertility work-up) that are already applied in current practice, no additional risks or burdens are expected from the study.

## **Contacts**

### **Public**

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

### Inclusion criteria

- Women between 18-39 years of age
- Spontaneous menstrual cycle
- Perceived low risk for tubal pathology
- Undergoing fertility work-up with an indication for tubal patency testing

### Exclusion criteria

- Women with known endocrine disorders (e.g. the polycystic ovary syndrome, diabetes, hyperthyroidism and hyperprolactinemia, except for well managed hypothyroidism (TSH 0.3-2.5mIU/l))
- Ovulation disorders defined as less than eight menstrual cycles per year
- Iodine allergy
- Male subfertility defined as a post-wash total motile sperm count  $< 1 \times 10^6$  spermatozoa/ml
- Not willing or able to sign the consent form

## Study design

### Design

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Study type:         | Interventional              |
| Intervention model: | Parallel                    |
| Allocation:         | Randomized controlled trial |
| Masking:            | Open (masking not used)     |
| Control:            | Active                      |
| Primary purpose:    | Treatment                   |

### Recruitment

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| NL                        |            |
| Recruitment status:       | Recruiting |
| Start date (anticipated): | 22-08-2019 |
| Enrollment:               | 354        |
| Type:                     | Actual     |

### Medical products/devices used

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Product type: | Medicine  |
| Brand name:   | Lipiodol  |
| Generic name: | Ethyl esters of iodized fatty acids of poppy seed oil |
| Registration: | Yes - NL intended use                                 |

## Ethics review

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Approved WMO       |                    |
| Date:              | 23-07-2019         |
| Application type:  | First submission   |
| Review commission: | METC Amsterdam UMC |
| Approved WMO       |                    |
| Date:              | 30-07-2019         |
| Application type:  | First submission   |
| Review commission: | METC Amsterdam UMC |
| Approved WMO       |                    |

Date: 08-10-2019  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 15-11-2019  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 16-03-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 24-04-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 18-08-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 12-10-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 25-02-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 06-03-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 18-04-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO

Date: 14-05-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 06-06-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 14-06-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 02-07-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 07-07-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 18-08-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 24-08-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 13-09-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 23-10-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO



Date: 04-11-2021  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 29-07-2022  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC  
Approved WMO  
Date: 11-10-2022  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

ID: 23111  
Source: NTR  
Title:

### In other registers

| <b>Register</b> | <b>ID</b>              |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| EudraCT         | EUCTR2018-004153-24-NL |
| CCMO            | NL62838.029.19         |
| Other           | NTR NL7926             |
| OMON            | NL-OMON23111           |