

A saline ultrasound (SIS) or sonohysterogram is a commonly performed test. The test is a specialized transvaginal ultrasound, in which a catheter is placed in the cavity of the uterus where a pregnancy implants, called the endometrial cavity. The catheter is used to fill the endometrial cavity with saline. Ultrasound images depend on sound waves put out by the ultrasound probe, with echoes from the sound waves returning to the ultrasound probe to create an image. Since fluid does not echo sound, fluid filled areas are seen as black cavities with ultrasound. Filling the uterus with saline creates a black background, in which abnormalities in the endometrial cavity such as polyps or fibroids can be seen in detail. Polyps and fibroids are almost never cancerous in the reproductive age group, but are common and can lead to infertility or to miscarriages.