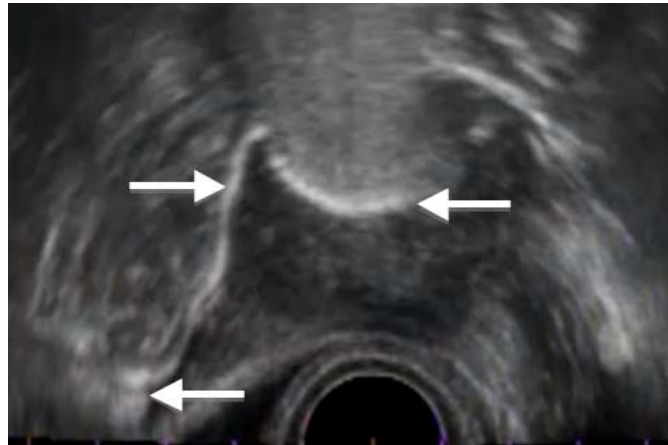


## Contrast Salpingo-Sonography in evaluation of tubal patency

N. Exalto & M.H. Emanuel





# Disclosure

- N. Exalto and M.H. Emanuel:
  - invented GIS and HyFoSy
  - are owner of the patents
  - are stockholder of Gynaecologic BV
  - receive royalties of Gynaecologic BV

**GIS-kit**

**ExEm Foam Kit**

**GynaecologIQ**

[www.gynaecologiq.com](http://www.gynaecologiq.com)

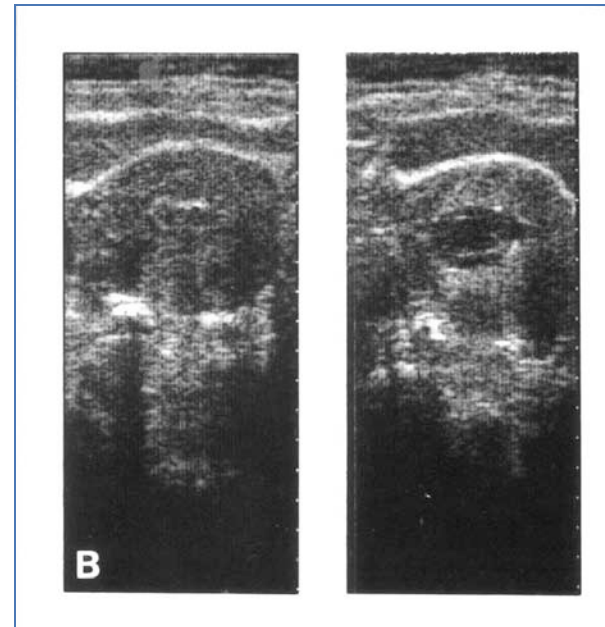
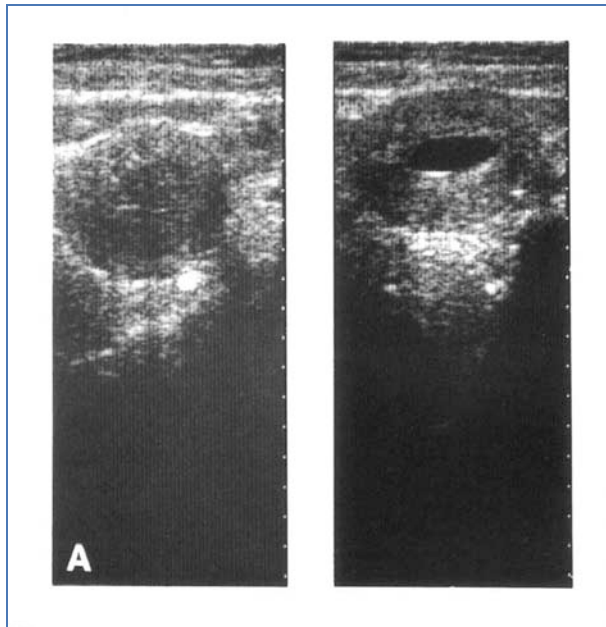


# Uterine cavity distention

Hyskon (32% dextran 70)

Van Roessel J, Wamsteker K en Exalto N

Sonographic investigation of the uterus during artificial uterine cavity distention. J Clin Ultrasound 1987; 15: 439-450



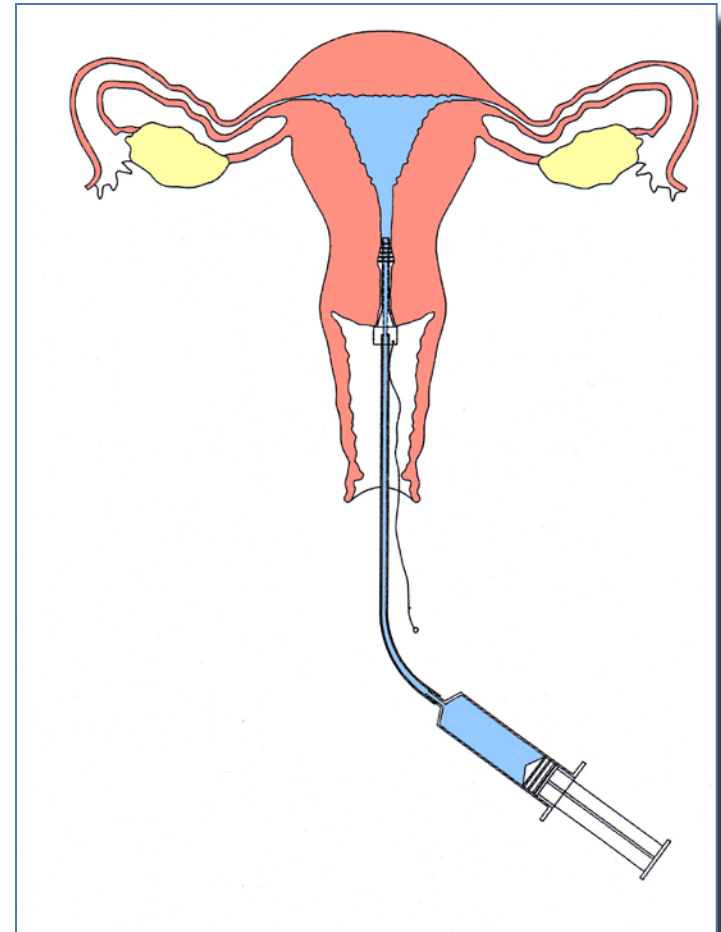


2007

Erasmus MC



- **Gel Instillation** Sonohysterography (GIS) with ExEm® Gel
- An alternative for **Saline Infusion** Sonohysterography (SIS)
- Less leakage / pain => minimal inconvenience
- Stable filling => better image + longer investigation time





# Gel: glycerol + hydroxyethylcellulose

Without other substances like

Chloorhexidine and /or lidocaïne

= Medical device # Pharmaceutical

= ExEm®-gel      proper viscosity



2007

Erasmus MC



- ExEm® Gel: hydroxy-ethyl-cellulose + glycerol + purified water
  
- **Safety:**
  - Urology                      urethra                      catheter gel
  - Surgery                      intra-abdominal adhaesion prevention
  - Ophthalmol                eyedrops                      artificial tears
  - Gynecol                      intra-uterine                local anaesthesia
  - Neurol                      intravasc                      treatment of cerebral edema
  
- > 30.000 GIS procedures without any serious side effects



# No effect on blastocyst development

## Mouse Embryo Test

Control Assay Results:

## Requirements for Passing

≥ 80% 1 cell to blastocyst within 120 hrs

≥ 50% blastocysts hatching within 120 hrs

## Result

100%

95%

Test Assay Results:

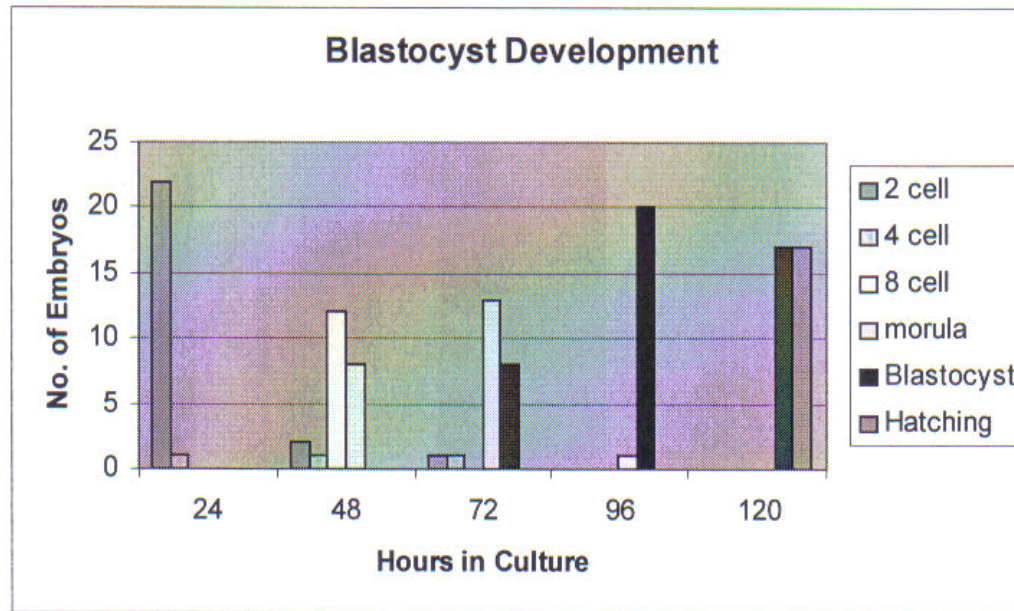
(see graph below)

≥ 80% 1 cell to blastocyst within 120 hrs

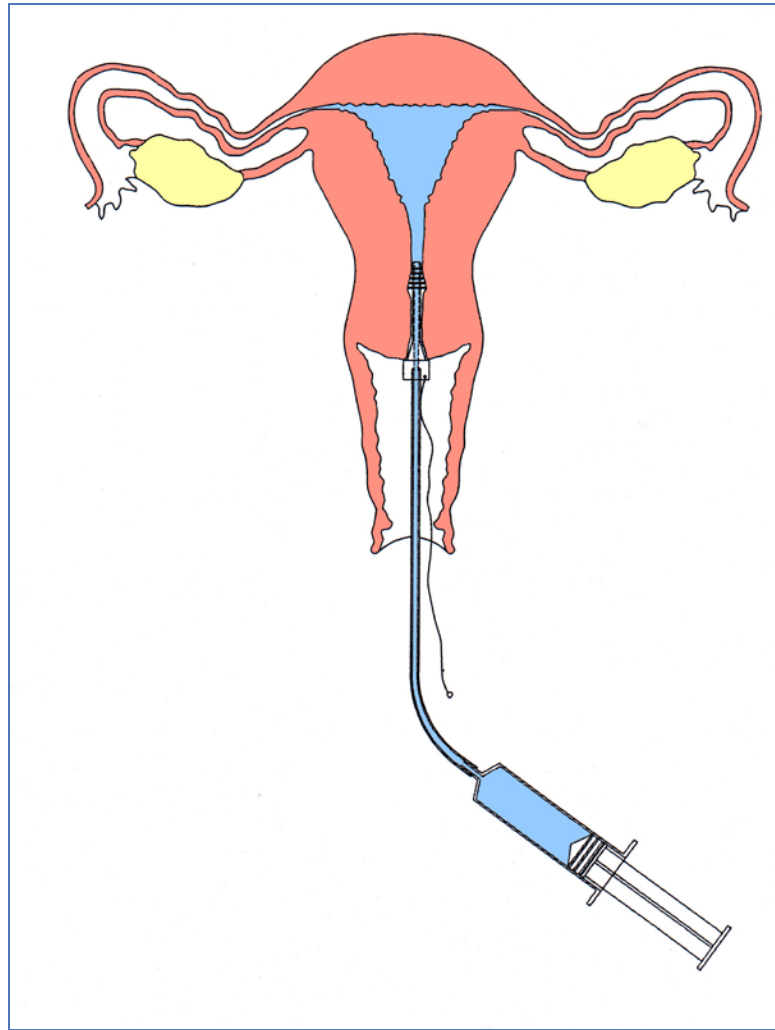
≥ 50% blastocysts hatching within 120 hrs

87%

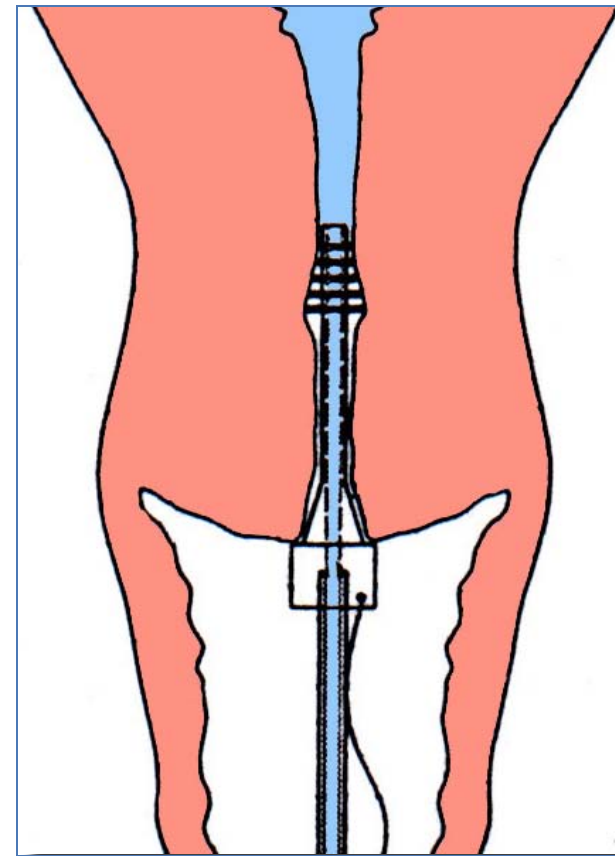
77%



**MEA RESULTS: PASS**



## Application device







# Filling slowly





## Gel instillation sonohysterography: first experience with a new technique

Niek Exalto, M.D., Ph.D.,<sup>a</sup> Corry Stappers, C.N.P.,<sup>a</sup> Louisa A.M. van Raamsdonk, Pharm.D.,<sup>b</sup> and Mark Hans Emanuel, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a</sup>

**TABLE 1**

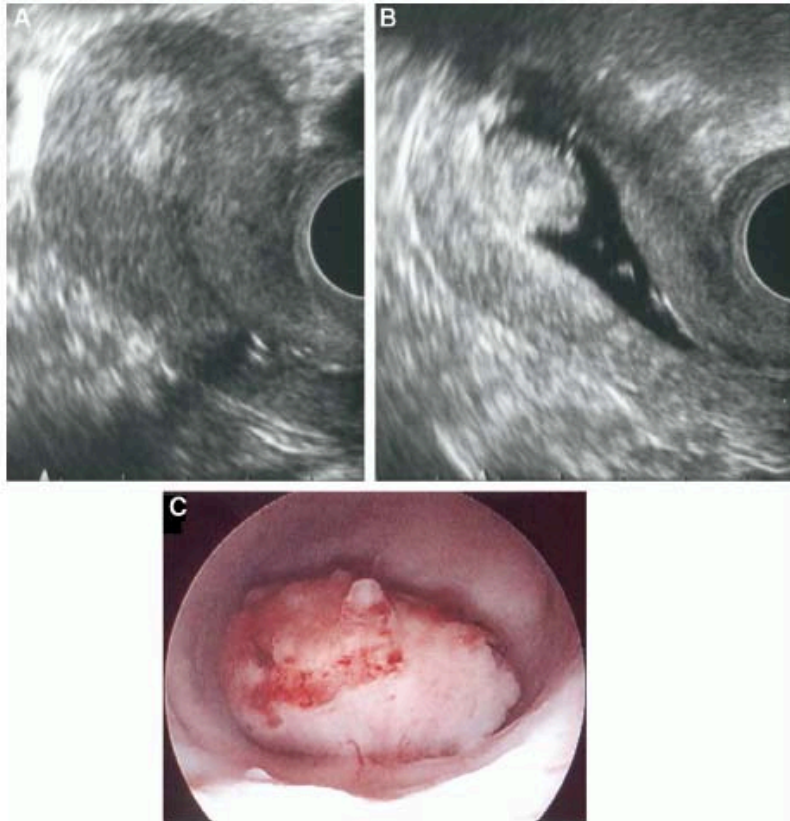
Gel instillation sonohysterography (GIS) indications and findings in 120 patients.

Indication	N	GIS normal (n)	GIS abnormal (n)
Abnormal uterine bleeding	52	27	25
Postmenopausal bleeding	32	11	21
Residual trophoblastic tissue	10	2	8
Habitual miscarriage/infertility	4	1	3
Evaluation myomas/polyps	5	—	5
Miscellaneous	10	8	2
Failed procedure	7	—	—
Total	120	49	64

*Exalto. Gel instillation sonohysterography. Fertil Steril 2007.*

**FIGURE 2**

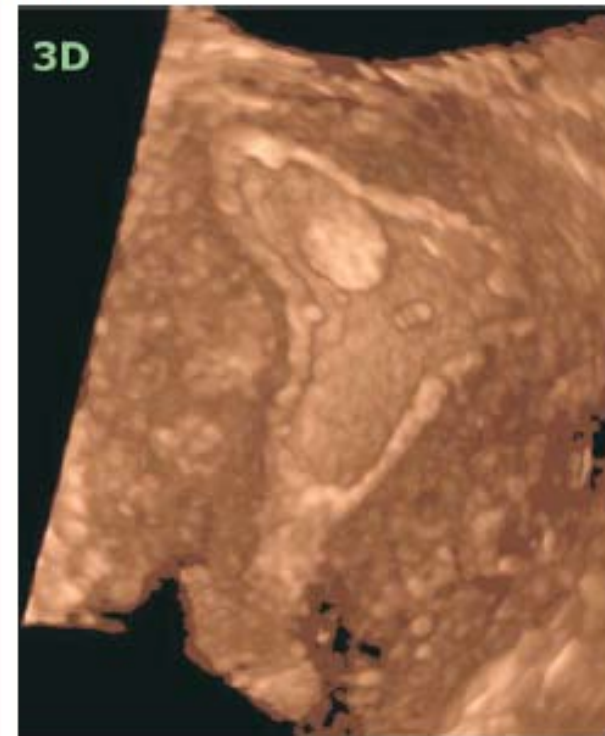
Sonographic visualization of an endometrial polyp (A) before and (B) after uterine cavity distension with gel; (C) hysteroscopic confirmation.



*Exalto. Gel instillation sonohysterography. Feril Steril 2007.*

**FIGURE 3**

Three-dimensional (3D) gel instillation sonohysterography (GIS) reconstruction of an endometrial polyp.



*Exalto. Gel instillation sonohysterography. Feril Steril 2007.*



# Position anteflexion





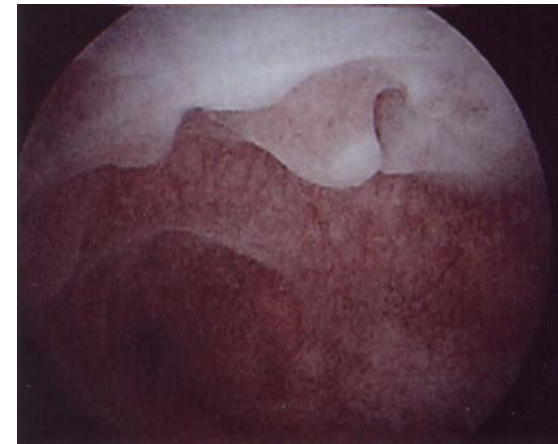
**Position**

**Retroflexion**



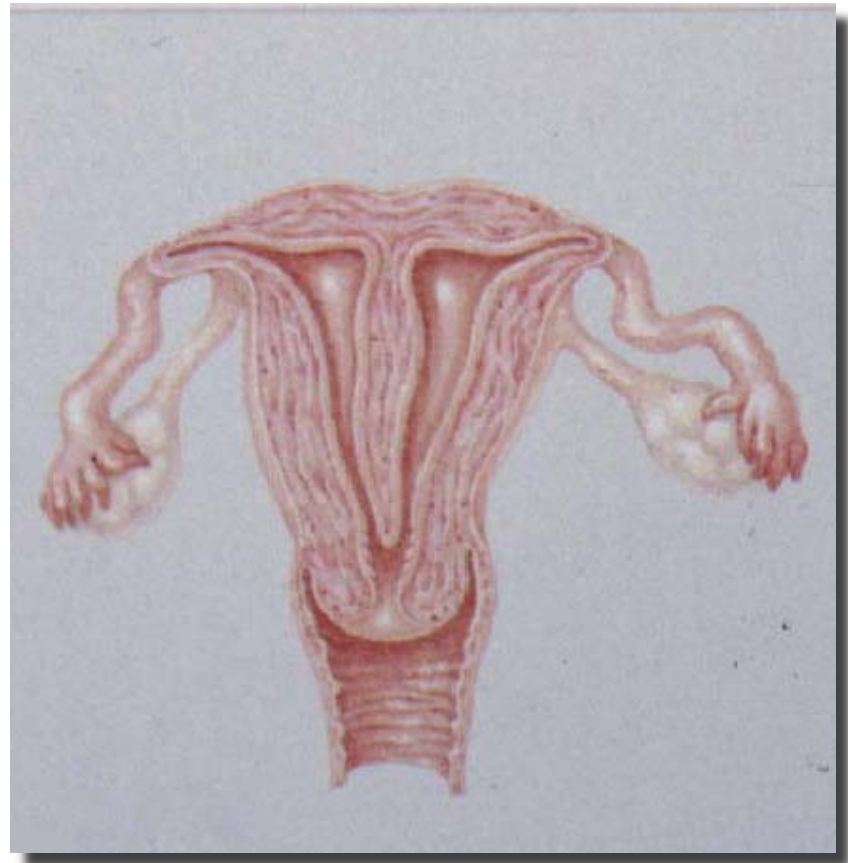
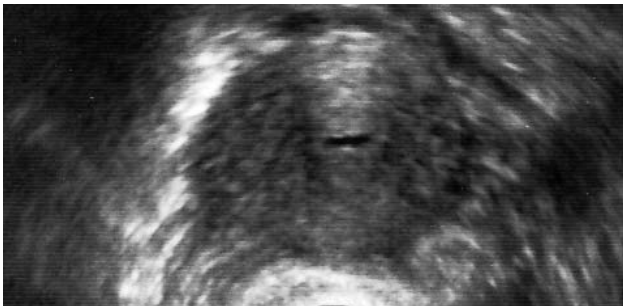
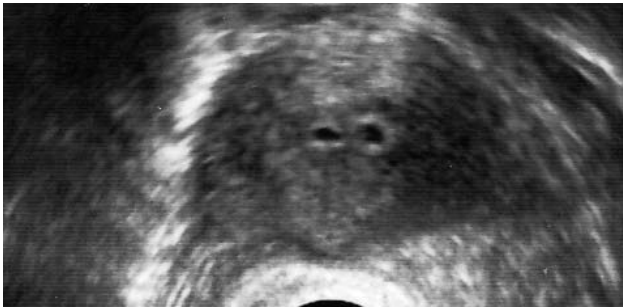
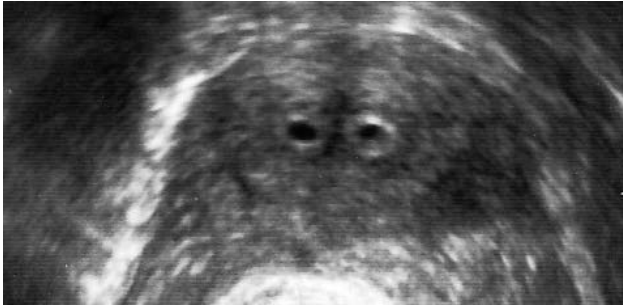
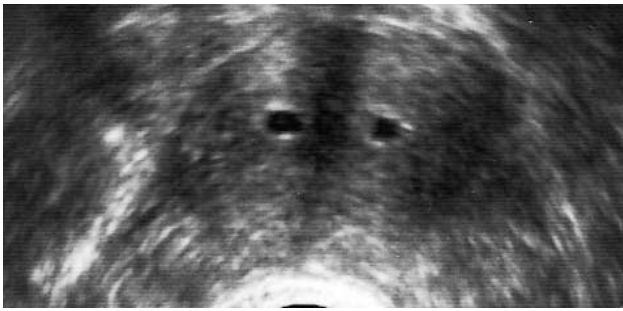


# Secretory phase



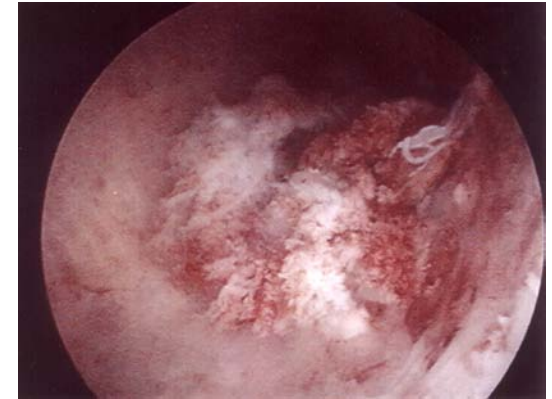
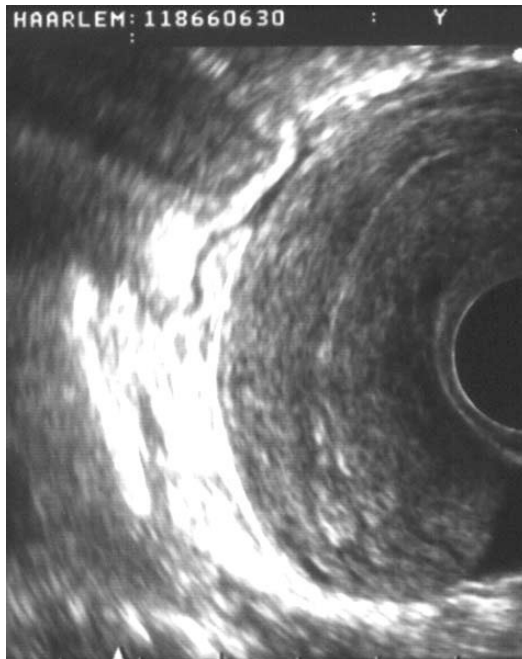


## Subseptate uterus





# Residual placental tissue



## Publications on G.I.S.

Bij de Vate et al 2010

Werbrouck et al 2011

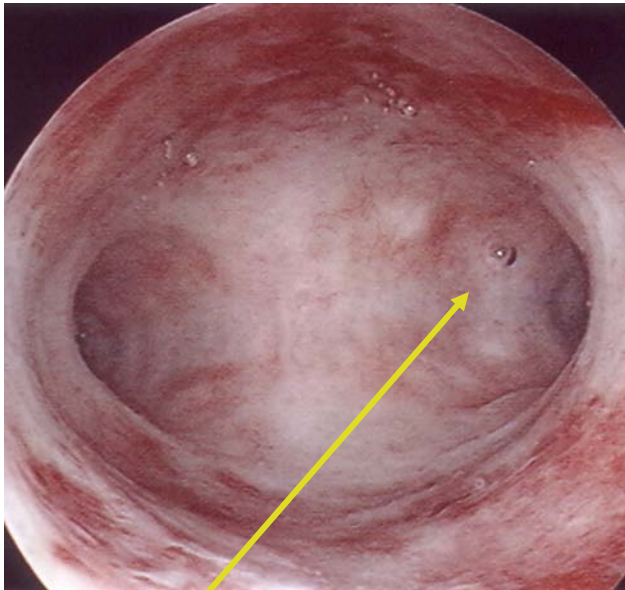
Van Den Bosch et al 2011 a

Van Den Bosch et al 2011 b



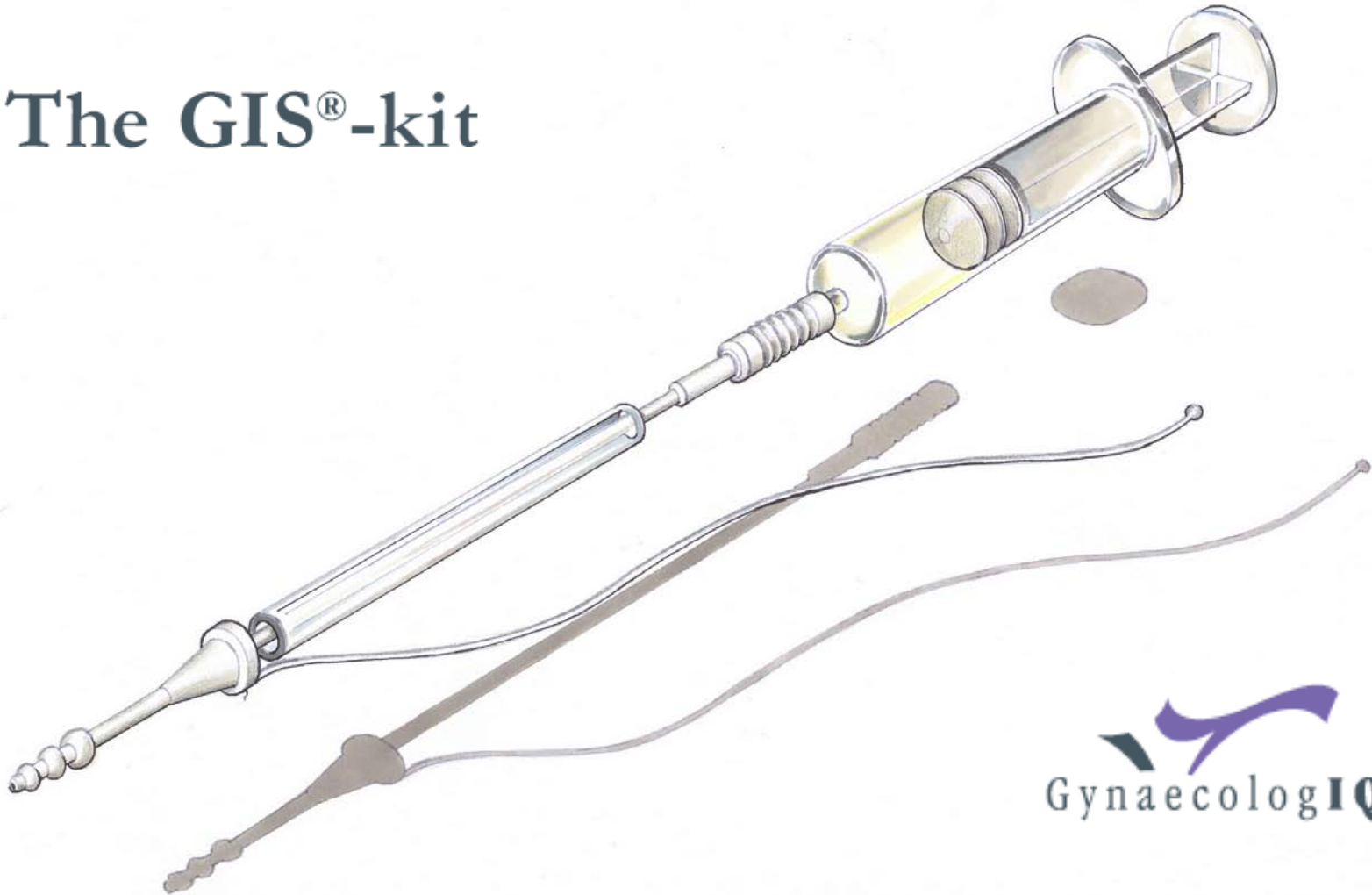


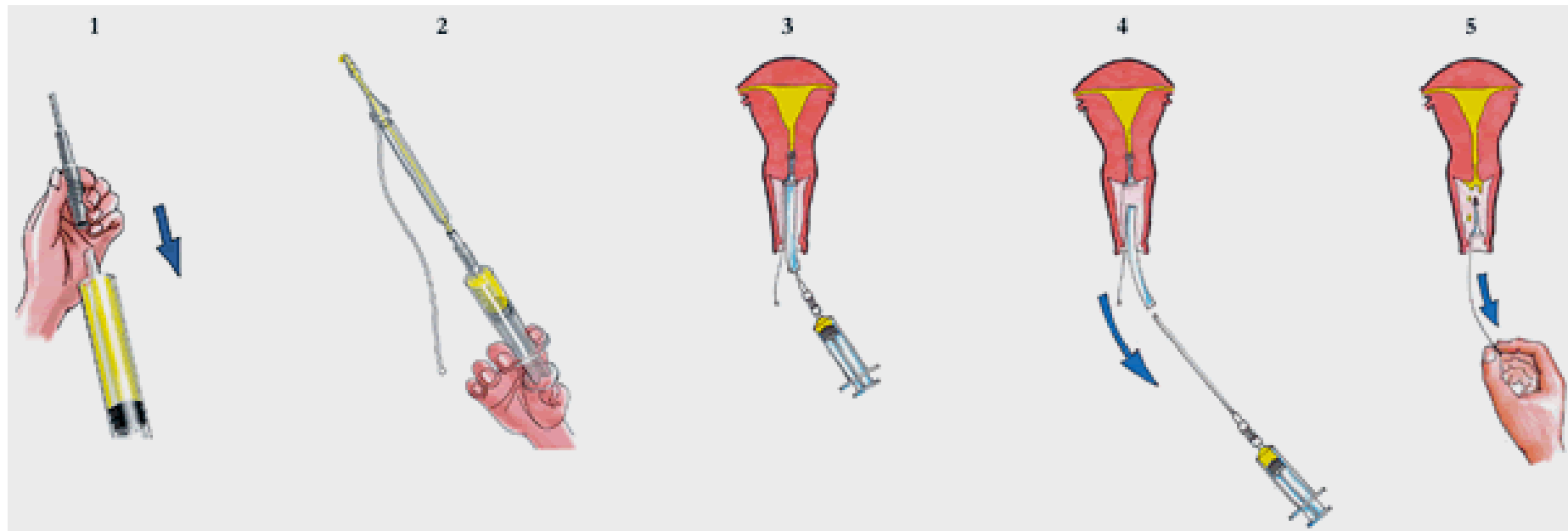
# Artefacts: air bubbles





# The GIS<sup>®</sup>-kit





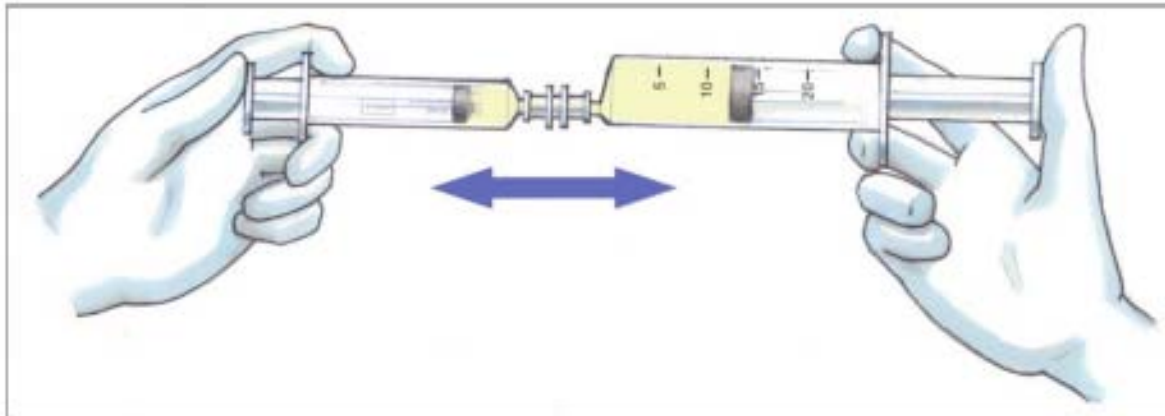


2010

Erasmus MC



- **Hysterosalpingo Foam Sonography (HyFoSy)**
- As an alternative for Hysterosalpingo Contrast Sonography (HyCoSy) with Echovist®, saline/air, e.g. (off label)
- Gel diluted and pushed through a small opening =>
- Turbulence => local pressure drop => air dissolving => Foam



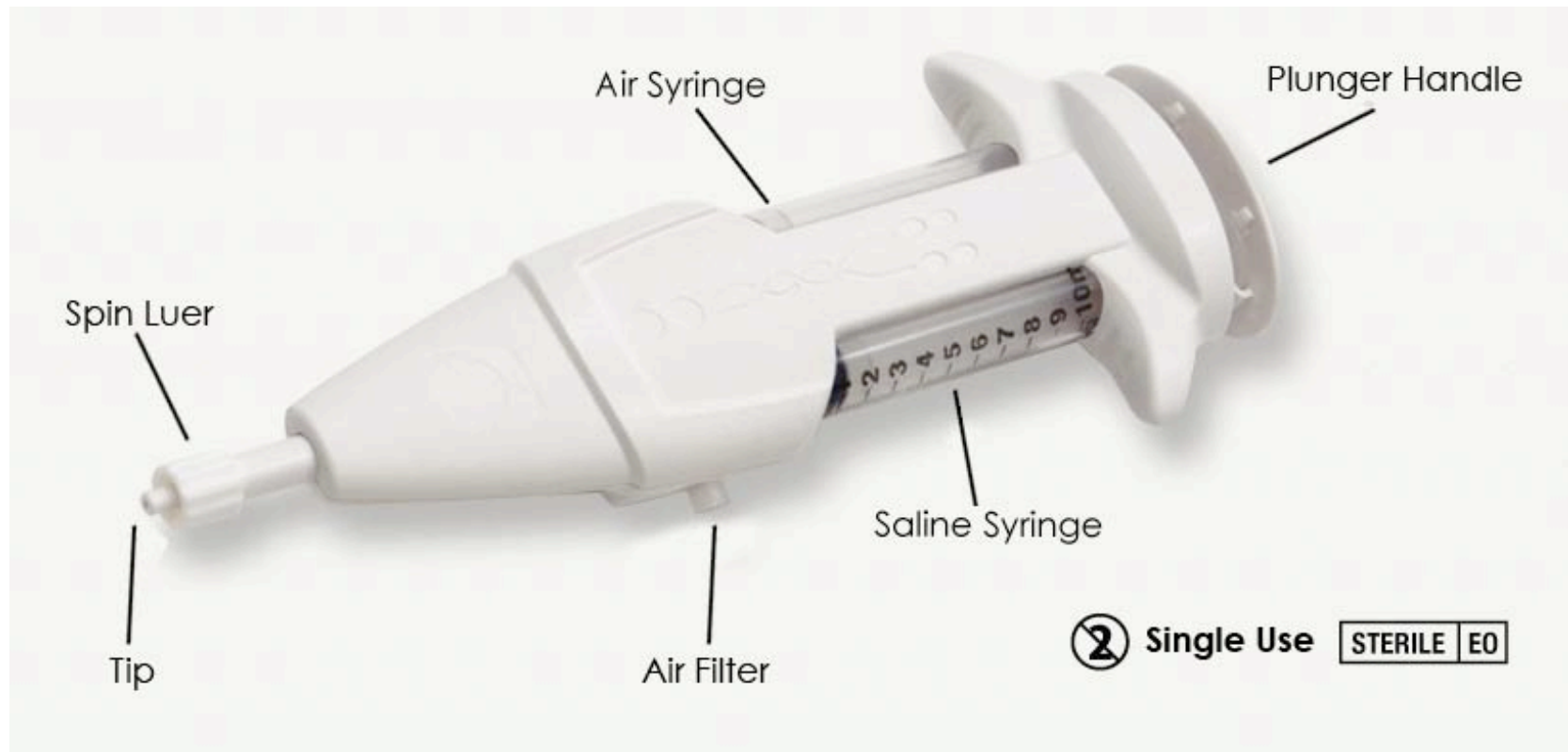


- 10 ml ExEm® Gel containing 88,25% purified water mixed with
- 10 ml purified water => mixture containing 94,10 % purified water =>
- Echogenicity for at least 5 minutes and sufficient fluid to pass patent tubes
- Viscosity ExEm foam 270 cPs compared to Echovist 400 cPs





- Saline mixed with air



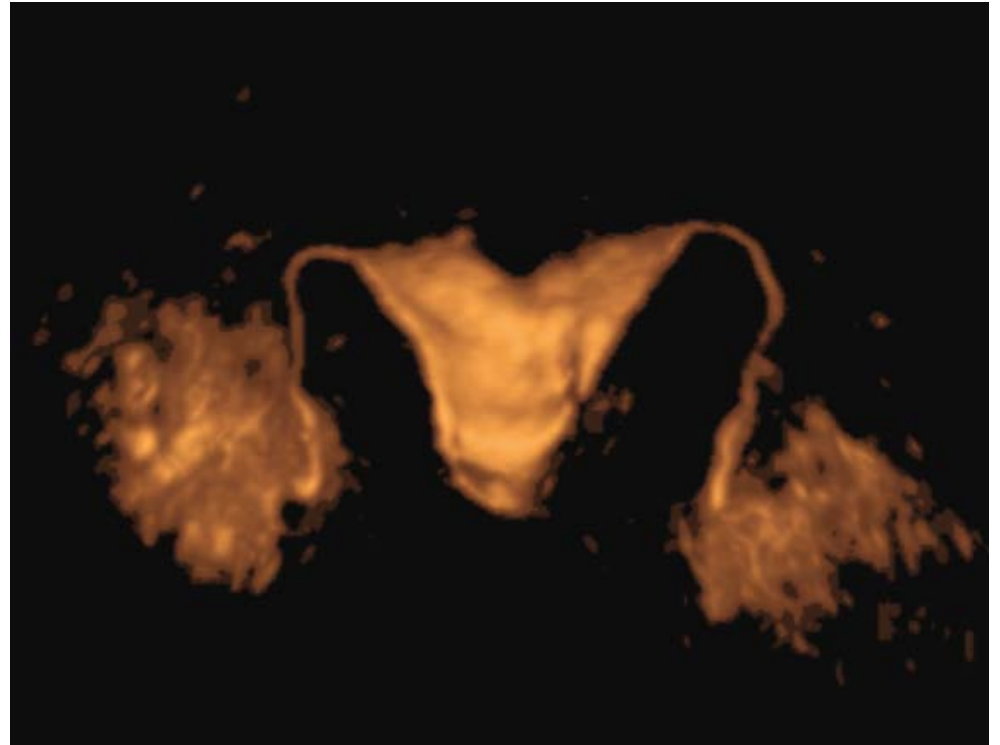
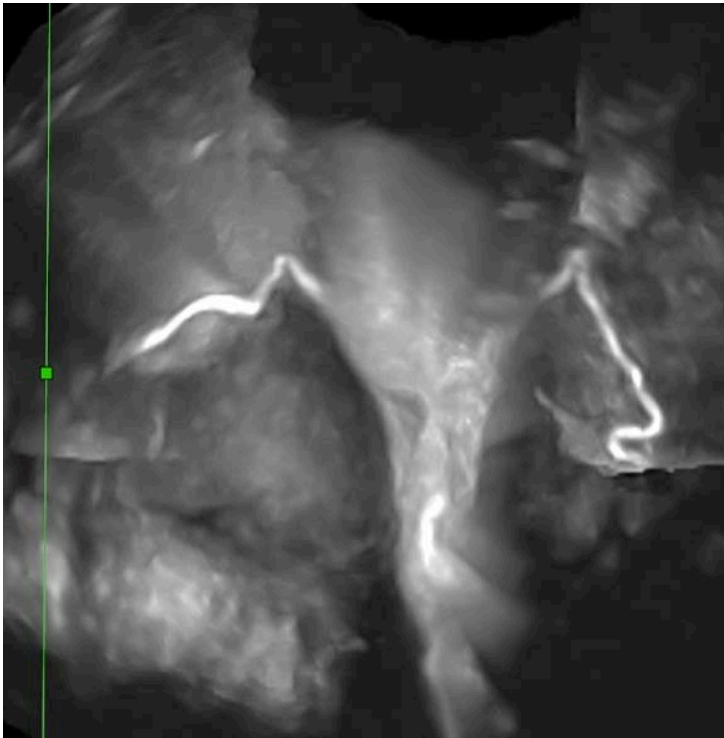


- Connect the syringe to the applicator
- Introduction of the applicator into the cervical canal
- After removal of the speculum => introduction of the US transducer
- Pushing the plunger of the syringe with light pressure by assistant





- After identifying the foam in the uterine cavity =>
- Transverse plane => distension of the Fallopian tubes at both sides
- And dispersion of the foam in the peritoneal cavity





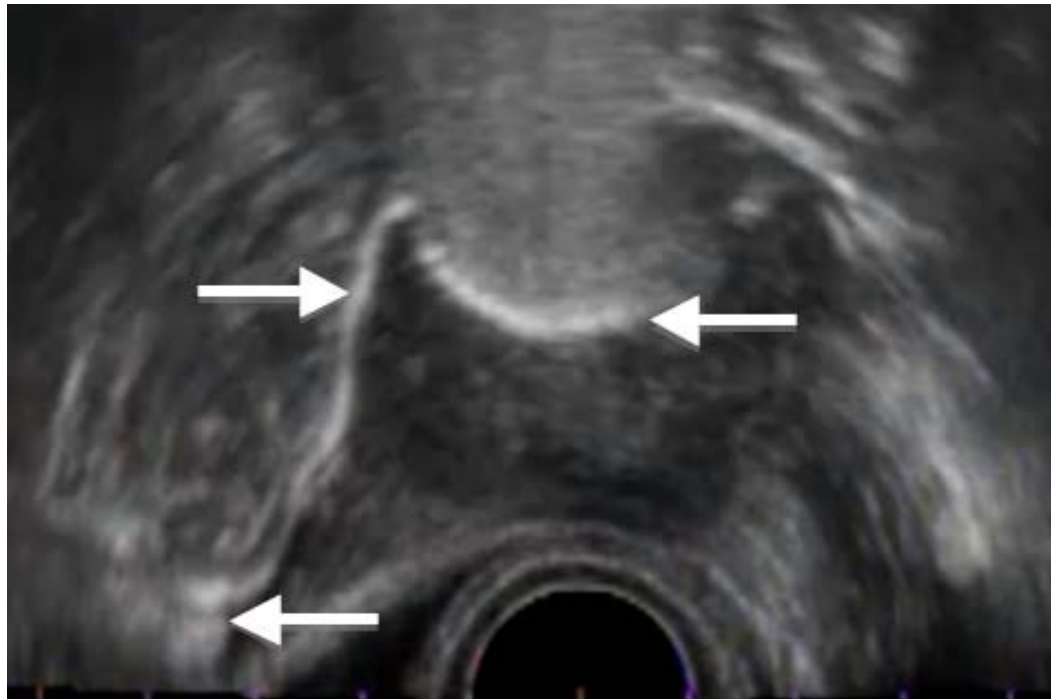


# Filling slowly



## First experiences with hysterosalpingo-foam sonography (HyFoSy) for office tubal patency testing

Mark Hans Emanuel<sup>1,\*</sup>, Michelle van Vliet<sup>1</sup>, Maaïke Weber<sup>1</sup>,  
and Niek Exalto<sup>2</sup>





# HyFoSy n = 73

▪ Succesfull procedure	67 / 73	92 %
▪ Cervical blockage	5	HSG normal 2/5
▪ Leakage	1	HSG normal 1/1
▪ Patent tubes both sides	55 / 73	
▪ Patent tube (one present)	2 / 73	
▪ Total patent	57 / 73	78 % no HSG
▪ One tube not visible	5 / 73	HSG normal 2/5
▪ Both tubes not visible	5 / 73	HSG normal 3/5
▪ Discordance	5 / 73	7 %



## HyFoSy n = 73

- Vasovagal discomfort 5 / 73 7%
- Spontaneous pregnancy 14 / 67 20%
  - Median time (month) 3 (2 - 12)





## The Use of a New Gel Foam for the Evaluation of Tubal Patency

Dominique Van Schoubroeck Thierry Van den Bosch Christel Meuleman  
Carla Tomassetti Thomas D'Hooghe Dirk Timmerman

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

- N = 20 ; HyFoSy + laparoscopy and chromopertubation
- All 20 HyFoSy were technically successful
- 1 right tube and 3 left tubes were not patent (3 proximal; 1 distal)
- 100% agreement between HyFoSy and Laparoscopy

Conclusion: HyFoSy is both feasible and accurate  
in the diagnosis of tubal patency



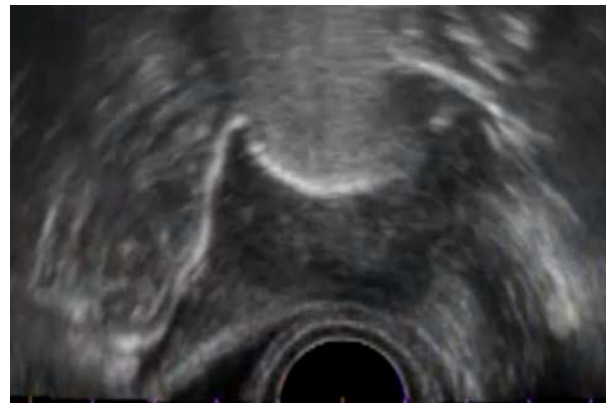
## Conclusion

- HyFoSy with ExEm® foam is a safe alternative for HyCoSy.
- In our study HSG could be avoided in 78 % of cases.
- HyFoSy is an easy to use first step test of tubal patency.
- HyFoSy is an attractive office procedure in an ambulatory setting.



ExEm® gel

GIS



ExEm® foam

HyFoSy

# References

- **Bij de Vate AJM**, Bröلمان HAM, van der Slikke JW, Emanuel MH, Huirne JAF. Gel instillation sonohysterography (GIS) and saline contrast sonohysterography (SCSH): comparison of two diagnostic techniques. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2010;35:486-9
- **Emanuel MH**, van Vliet M, Weber M, Exalto N. First experiences with hysterosalpingo-foam sonography (HyFoSy) for office tubal patency testing. *Human Reprod* 2011, *Human Reproduction* 2012; 27:114-117
- **Exalto N**, Stappers C, van Raamsdonk LAM and Emanuel MH. Gel Instillation Sonohysterography: first experience with a new technique. *Fertil Steril* 2007;87:152-5
- **Van Roessel J**, Wamsteker K en Exalto N. Sonographic investigation of the uterus during artificial uterine cavity distention. *J Clin Ultrasound* 1987;15:439-50
- **Van Schoubroeck D**, Van den Bosch T, Meuleman C, Tomassetti C, D'Hooghe T, Timmerman D. The Use of a New Gel Foam for the Evaluation of Tubal Patency. *Gynecol Obstet Invest.* 2012 Dec 28. [Epub ahead of print]
- **Van den Bosch T**, Van Schoubroeck D, Daemen A, Domali E, Vandenbroucke V, De Moor B, Deprest J, Timmerman D. Lidocaine does not reduce pain perception during gel instillation sonography or subsequent office hysteroscopy: results of a randomized trial. *Gynecol Obstet Invest* 2011;71:236-9
- **Van Den Bosch T**, Van Schoubroeck D, Luts J, Bignardi T, Condous G, Epstein E, Leone FP, Testa AC, Valentin L, Van Huffel S, Bourne T, Timmerman D. Effect of gel-instillation sonography on Doppler ultrasound findings in endometrial polyps. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2011;38:355-9
- **Werbrouck E**, Veldman J, Luts J, Van Huffel S, Van Schoubroeck D, Timmerman D, Van den Bosch T. Detection of endometrial pathology using saline infusion sonography versus gel instillation sonography: a prospective cohort study. *Fertil Steril* 2011;95:285-8