Should hysteroscopy be a part of the basic infertility workup?

Dear Sir,

We read with great interest the recent article by Shushan et al. (1999). We would like to make the following remarks. Firstly, we completely agree with these authors, on their proposal to introduce hysteroscopy in the basic infertility workup instead of hysterosalpingography. Secondly, we consider that performing diagnostic hysteroscopy before assisted reproductive technologies (ART), should be advisable not only from the clinical but also from the economic viewpoint (La Sala et al., 1998). Thirdly, we think that hysterosalpingography should be considered an obsolete test, because it is more invasive, more dangerous and less reliable than hysteroscopy and sonohysterography in the detection of the uterine abnormalities during a routine infertility investigation (Golan, 1996; Goldberg, 1997); and finally, we should suggest the following pattern in the preliminary workup of the uterine-pelvic-tubal causes of female infertility: (i) in an outpatient setting, the basic test could be sonohysterography; and (ii) in an hospital setting laparoscopic chromopertubation associated with salpingoscopy and hysteroscopy, could be carried out, as second level tests, in the same stage.

References


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