



**Title** **Saline Infusion Sonohysterography (SIS), May 1999**  
**Agency** **MSAC, Medicare Services Advisory Committee**  
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## Aim

To assess the safety and effectiveness of the service and under what circumstances public funding should be supported for the service.

## Conclusions and results

*Safety:* SIS is safe with low complication rates when used with transvaginal ultrasound (TVS).

*Effectiveness:* SIS with TVS is more sensitive than TVS alone in detecting uterine cavity abnormalities and has similar specificity. It benefits clinical decision making by avoiding hysteroscopies in some cases.

*Cost effectiveness:* The cost of SIS is offset by reductions in hysteroscopies. The incremental cost-effectiveness ratio is highly sensitive to the proportion of hysteroscopies avoided by SIS (ranging from a cost of \$1052 per hysteroscopy avoided to a dominant cost effectiveness ratio).

## Recommendations

Public funding should be supported for SIS as a second line diagnostic method for abnormal uterine bleeding when findings of TVS are inconclusive.

## Method

MSAC conducted a systematic review of medical literature using DialogWeb which sweeps numerous medical and health related databases. The databases were searched from establishment until June 1998. Cost effectiveness analysis used a range of estimates for associated reductions in hysteroscopy (9.4%, 20% and 30.6% following a study by De Crespigny in 1997). Separate figures were provided for private and public hospital patients.