# Sonohysterography: An Adjunct Investigation To Evaluate Chronic Pelvic Pain

**Objective:** Chronic pelvic pain is a complicated problem resulting in gynecology referrals, laparoscopies and hysterectomies. Sonohysterography is an ultrasound procedure usually performed to investigate abnormal uterine bleeding, suspected endometrial abnormalities and infertility. The purpose of this study was to investigate if sonohysterography is useful in the investigation of pelvic pain, by assessing if the pain is reproducible upon instillation of fluid into the uterine cavity.

**Study methods**: This prospective study selected 200 consecutive women, ages 24-53, in Toronto, referred for sonohysterography from May –December 2008. Pelvic pain was the primary or secondary indication for the study. Postmenopausal patients, or those with a history or findings of endometriosis were excluded. The sonohysterograms were performed by an experienced imager. Factors such as dysmenorrhea, presence of adenomyosis and reproduction of pain during sonohysterography were assessed. Pearson's Chi-squared test for independence was utilized.

**Results**: Of the 200 patients referred for pelvic pain, 145 had adenomyosis, 132 had dysmenorrhea and 113 had reproduction of their pelvic pain. 89 had both adenomyosis and reproduced pain, while 80 had dysmenorrhea and reproduced pain. Pearson's Chi-squared test for adenomyosis and reproduced pain was 5.10; df=1; p=0.02. Pearson's Chi-squared test for dysmenorrhea and reproduced pain was 2.66; df=1; p=0.10.

**Conclusions**: Sonohysterography can be a helpful adjunct in localizing the pain to the uterus in the workup of chronic pelvic pain. It is especially helpful when adenomyosis is suspected and possibly if the patient has dysmenorrhea. Further investigation is warranted.