



POST-MENOPAUSAL BLEEDING

- Defined as spontaneous vaginal bleeding which occurs more than one year after the date of the last menstrual period. For women on combined oestrogen/progesterone HRT, investigations are only warranted if the bleeding persists for > 6 months.

TRANSVAGINAL ULTRASOUND

- Uses of TVUS include:
 - To assess focal abnormalities such as polyps and the thickness of the endometrium.
 - To determine those patients with a thin endometrium who are unlikely to require further investigation. [1-4](#)

- In the absence of focal abnormalities, endometrial thickness, morphology and vascularisation as seen with Doppler have been used as markers of endometrial pathology. [14](#)
 - Endometrium thickness is assessed by measuring the anterior and posterior layers of the endometrium in the sagittal plane and summing the values. [5](#)
 - This technique has a high reproducibility and high intraobserver and interobserver reliability for experienced radiologists. [6,7](#)
 - Current recommendations suggest using the same threshold of endometrial thickness for users and non-users of HRT. The risk of endometrial cancer for a thickness < 4mm in users of HRT is 0.1% and in non-users is 1%. [15](#)
 - With a thickness > 5mm, the sensitivity and specificity of detecting endometrial cancer is 100% and 37-57% respectively. [1516](#)
- The use of transabdominal ultrasound gives a good overall view of the pelvis but is inferior to transvaginal ultrasound for viewing endometrial morphology and measuring endometrial thickness. [10](#)

SALINE INFUSION SONOHYSTEROGRAPHY

- Involves infusing saline into the endometrial cavity followed by transvaginal ultrasound to improve visualisation of focal endometrial lesions.
- The sensitivity for detecting endometrial cancer is 96% and for any pathology is 98%. [17](#) However, it cannot confidently discriminate between benign disease and malignancy. [18](#)
- Studies indicate that women prefer this study compared to hysteroscopy. [19](#)

HYSTEROSCOPY AND ENDOMETRIAL SAMPLING

- Based on a meta-analysis of 56 studies, the sensitivity of hysteroscopy for the detection of endometrial cancer is 86.4% with a specificity of 99.2% and positive likelihood ratio of 60.9. [20](#)
- Advantages:
 - Allows for removal of polyps and biopsy of suspicious lesions for histological examination
 - Targeted biopsy of a visualised focal lesion is more accurate than blind dilatation and curettage
- Disadvantages:
 - Invasive procedure and less well tolerated compared to saline infusion sonohysterography [19](#)

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