

Device for sealing a body canal and method of use (*Nady E. Nady, RWJMS, 05-09*)
Medical Device

Background

Procedures that require entry into the uterus are well known. Two such procedures are diagnostic and surgical hysteroscopy. Diagnostic hysteroscopy is a procedure used to help diagnoses abnormal uterine bleeding, infertility, uterine and cervical cancer, location of intrauterine devices, and fetal exam. Surgical hysteroscopy is a procedure used to remove polyps, cut adhesions, and other surgical procedures.

Description of the Technology

This US Patent Application describes a device useful in diagnostic or surgical procedures for sealing the cervical canal in which an inflatable device is used with a hysteroscope instrument. The inflatable device provides a seal between the outer surface of the hysteroscope instrument and the cervical canal, thereby preventing fluids from exiting the cervical canal during the procedure.

Advantages

Because the inside of the uterus is a potential cavity, like a collapsed air dome, it is necessary to fill (distend) the uterus with either a fluid or a gas in order to visualize the interior of the uterus during both diagnostic and surgical hysteroscopy. This invention effectively prevents backflow of fluid or gas used to pressurize the uterus during either diagnostic or surgical hysteroscopy and permits the volume of either fluid or gas used in the procedure to be determined quantitatively.

Applications

This invention has application to both diagnostic and surgical hysteroscopy.

Patent Status

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