

Equipment required

Sterile abdominal tap pack as usually used in each recruiting unit for sterile invasive procedures

5ml syringe	1
20 gauge needle for injection	1
1% Lignocaine	5mls
20 gauge needle with trocar (outer sleeve 20 gauge)	1
Three way tap	1
50 ml syringe with screw top	1
Connection tubing for infusion	1
Hartmann's solution	500mls

Procedure

The procedure will be performed under lignocaine local anaesthesia, according to the protocol for sterile invasive procedure in each recruiting unit.

Prior to commencing the procedure, attach the three-way tap to the tubing of infusion and attach the tubing to the bag of 500mls Hartmann's solution. Run the Hartmann's through avoiding air bubbles. The 50 ml syringe can be attached to the side port of the three-way tap leaving one port free to be attached to the needle once it is inserted.

Use a size 18Ch needle with trocar for the procedure. Once the needle has been introduced and is found to be clear of fetal parts and umbilical cord, attach the third

port of the three-way tap to the needle. A test dose of 10 mls Hartmann's can be introduced under ultrasound visualisation.

Once sure that satisfactory amnioinfusion can be performed, draw up 50mls of Hartmann's at a time and introduce into uterine cavity under ultrasound control to a maximum of 10mls/week gestational age.⁷ The Hartmann's solution should be at room temperature.

Withdraw the needle under ultrasound control once the correct amount of fluid has been inserted. Complete ultrasound examination and measurements required for the study.