

Patient information for Urodynamic Testing

What is a urodynamic test?

Urodynamic testing is a bladder function test. It measures how much your bladder holds, at what pressures your bladder stores urine, and how well your bladder empties. It also helps to diagnose problems with leakage (urinary incontinence) or inability to fully empty the bladder (urinary retention). This test will give your doctor very useful information to help treat your problem.

How is the test done?

Small catheters will be placed in your urethra (the tube that carries the urine from the bladder to the outside of your body). One of the catheters will fill your bladder with fluid. Another will be placed in the rectum or vagina to measure pressures. Two sticky patches are placed on the skin of the inner thigh to measure the activity of the muscles in your pelvis.

How will I feel during the test?

You may have some mild discomfort or pressure during the insertion of the catheters. Once the catheters are in place, you should feel little to no discomfort.

How long does the test take?

The test usually takes an hour.

How do I prepare for the test?

In order to get the best results from your bladder test, there are a few steps that you must take. **PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY:**

*You should discontinue Oxytrol, Detrol, Ditropan, Sanctura, and similar bladder medications 2 weeks prior to your appointment and Uroblue and Pyridium 48 hours prior to your appointment. **IF BLADDER MEDICATION IS NOT DISCONTINUED PRIOR TO YOUR URODYNAMIC TESTING, THE TEST WILL HAVE TO BE RESCHEDULED.**

*Complete your bladder diary. The completion of this diary is very important! Please bring this diary with you if it has not been completed and handed to the physician at an earlier date.

*Arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled time to allow time for registration. Come for your test with a **FULL** bladder. **PLEASE DO NOT** urinate upon arrival at this office. You will be asked to urinate during the first part of the test.

*Please notify this office if you have latex allergy or sensitivity before the test. Our staff will prepare the room with non-latex equipment.

Any questions please call the Women's Clinic at 610-374-2214