

## **URODYNAMICS**

### ***What does this procedure involve?***

Urodynamic studies are designed to demonstrate how your bladder is working. A small soft tube called a catheter is placed in your bladder. Your bladder is slowly filled with salty water. The catheter has a pressure sensor at the tip. How your bladder responds with filling and with emptying is measured using a computer connected to the catheter.

### ***What are the alternatives?***

The only other alternative is treating you without the information the test may provide and seeing whether the treatment helps your symptoms or not.

### ***What happens on the day?***

Your urologist will review your history and medications and your bladder diary. You must let the staff know if you have any allergies, especially to latex.

You will be asked to present to the procedure with a full bladder. This allows us to test your urine for infection with a dipstick. If there is infection present, your procedure will be delayed.

Before starting the urodynamic studies you will be asked to empty your bladder into a special machine. This will measure your urinary flow rate in mL per minute.

### ***Details of the procedure***

You will lie on a patient table and a fine plastic tube (catheter) will be passed through your waterpipe (urethra) into your bladder. If the catheter can not be inserted, a fine telescope (flexible cystoscope) will be used to insert the catheter.

A second catheter is placed in your back passage (rectum). Once all the catheters have been placed, they will be taped to your leg and connected to the computer which measures pressures.

We may do the test with you lying down or standing. Your bladder is slowly filled with a salty solution (saline) through the catheter. We ask you to cough or strain during the test and to let us know when you feel the first desire to urinate.

If one of your symptoms is leakage, we will try to reproduce this. Do not be embarrassed about leaking during the test as this helps us see what makes you leak.

You will be encouraged to hold on until your bladder feels very full. At the end you will be asked to void into the flow machine again.

If you are having video urodynamics, we will fill your bladder with dye so that we can take x-ray pictures during the test.

At the end of the test all catheters are gently removed.

Mr Scott Donnellan

Mr Paul Manohar

Dr Sarah Azer

***Are there any possible after effects?***

After Effect	Risk
Burning or discomfort passing urine	Between 1 in 2 & 1 in 10 patients
Blood in your urine	Between 1 in 2 & 1 in 10 patients
Infection in your urine requiring antibiotics	Between 1 in 10 & 1 in 50 patients
Abandoned procedure due to failed catheter insertion	1 in 50 patients
Retention of urine requiring a catheter	Between 1 in 50 and 1 in 250 patients
Failure to find a cause for your symptoms	Between 1 in 50 & 1 in 250 patients

**GENERAL INFORMATION*****Before your procedure***

Please stop any drugs you are taking for bladder symptoms such as Ditropan, Betmiga, Vesicare or Oxytrol patches for 48 hours prior.

Please let us know if you have any blood in the urine or are worried you may have a urine infection.

***After the procedure***

You can return to regular medications and activities straight away. The surgeon will let you know the results of the test and any changes to treatment. If you are prone to urine infections you may be given a short course of antibiotics.

**References**

- The United Kingdom Continence Society
- British Association of Urological Surgeons