

700 Children's Drive
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nationwidechildrens.org

URODYNAMICS

Urodynamics* is a series of tests that are done to see how well the urethra* and bladder are working. The muscle strength of the area between the legs is also measured. The test results are recorded on a computer near the exam table. *See page 2 for a pronunciation guide for words that are starred (*).*

MEDICINES

- Continue all medicines.
- Ask if you should stop giving all medicines that affect urine control (such as Levsin or Ditropan*) for 24 hours before the test.
 - Continue to give any antibiotics your child may be taking. If you are not sure which medicines to stop giving, please call your nurse or doctor.
 - Bring the list of medicines your child is taking. Include the amount and how often your child takes each medicine.

For Outpatient Use Only

Child's name _____

APPOINTMENT:

Date _____ Time _____

Please bring your child to:

Outpatient Care Center, 555 South 18th Street, 1C Registration Area. You will be directed to the 6th Floor, Suite 6D.

Other _____

Please come 15 minutes early to allow time to register.

GETTING READY FOR THE TEST

- If your child is on a regular program of clean intermittent catheterization, please measure urine output for 2 days before the test. Bring this information with you to the test.
- Explain to your child what will happen during the test using words he or she will understand.
- Parents will be asked to stay with the child during the tests.
- Your child should wear a two-piece outfit such as a T-shirt and jeans for the test. Bring an extra pair of socks and diapers or adult-sized diapers if used.
- Check with your insurance company to see if you need to have preauthorization for this test.

HOW THE TEST IS DONE

The urodynamics* test is made up of several parts: the uroflow* test, the cystometrogram* (CMG), and the electromyelogram* (EMG).

- Uroflow* test:** If possible, your child should not urinate for 2 hours before the test. Your child will be asked to sit on a toilet chair. Your child will be asked to start urinating.

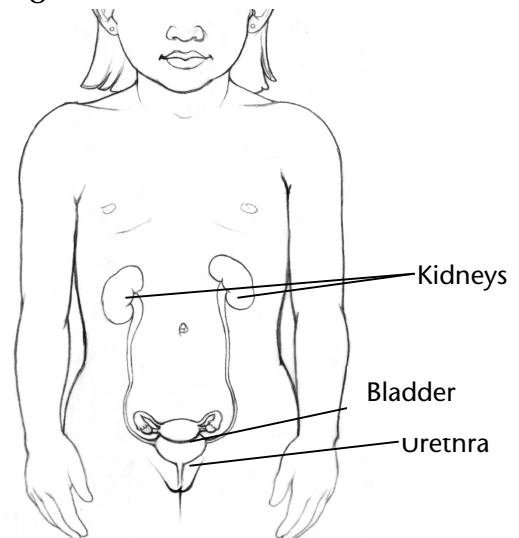
❑ Preparing for the Cystometrogram* and Electromyogram*

The nurse will help your child lie down on a padded table. Parents should plan to stay with their child while the test is being done.

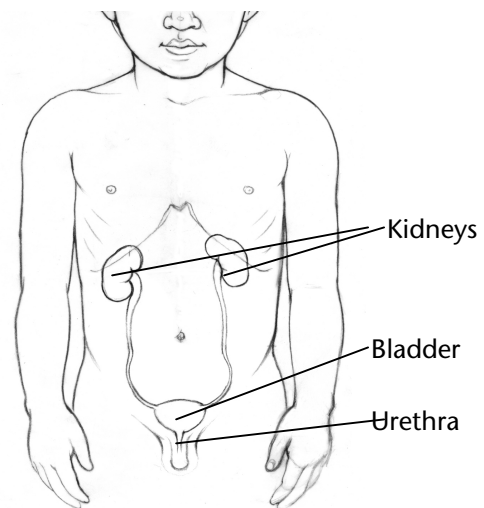
- Your child's underwear will be removed.
- The genital area will be cleaned with antiseptic solution.
- A sterile plastic catheter (tube) will be put into the urethra* to remove urine from the bladder. A numbing gel (local anesthetic) will be used when the catheter is put in. This tube will cause a feeling of pressure for a short time. The tube will be left in place until it is removed in the last part of the test.
- A small tube (catheter) will be put in the rectum. It will measure abdominal muscle pressures. A numbing gel will be used when the catheter is put in.

❑ **Cystometrogram* (CMG):** During the CMG, water will be placed inside the bladder through the catheter. The bladder will be filled with normal saline (salt water) to see how the bladder is working. The test also shows how much sensation (feeling) there is in the bladder.

❑ **Electromyogram* (EMG):** The EMG shows how well the muscles of the buttocks work. This is done by placing EKG stickers on the buttocks.



Picture 1 The female urinary system.



Picture 2 The male urinary system.

AFTER THE TEST

You may take your child home. Your child may have some minor discomfort after the tests. Your doctor will talk with you about ways to make your child more comfortable at home. Your doctor will study the graphs of the tests and will discuss the results with you. You can expect to receive a bill from the hospital as well as the doctor's bill.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Cystometrogram (sis-toe-MET-roe-gram)

Ditropan (DIT-roe-pan)

Electromyogram (Ee-leck-troe-MY-loe-gram)

Urethra (you-REE-thruh)

Uroflow Test (YUR-oh-flow)

Urodynamics (YUR-oh-dye-NAM-icks)

If you have any questions, be sure to ask your doctor or nurse, or call (614) 722-5801.