



Your Urethrogram (Male)

Radiology Department

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

01793 60 50 59

Opening Hours

Monday – Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm



Your Urethrogram (Male)

What is an Urethrogram

A Urethrogram is an X-ray test where a very fine catheter (plastic tube) is inserted into your urethra. X-ray dye is then injected through the catheter and X-ray pictures taken. This test will give your Consultant information about possible strictures (narrowing) in your urethra.

Are there any risks involved?

Complications are rare, but possible risks are infection, bleeding and some pain.

During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information. The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible.

The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having, but your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you to have to help diagnose or treat your condition.

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.



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Do I have to have this examination?

Your doctor has requested this X-ray as it is considered the most effective way of helping with diagnosis.

Before:

Is there anything I should do?

- There is no preparation for this procedure
- You will be asked to empty your bladder before the procedure
- The procedure takes approximately 15 minutes

During:

- You will be asked to remove clothing and jewellery covering the affected area and you will be given a gown to put on.
- You will be taken into the room by the Radiographer and the procedure will be explained to you.
- The Radiologist (the Doctor carrying out the procedure) will apply lubricating gel that also contains a local anaesthetic to the end of your penis and inside your urethra. When the area is numb the Radiologist will introduce a catheter into the urethra, the Radiologist will then inject some contrast (x-ray dye) into the urethra and a series of pictures taken so the full length of the urethra is visualised.



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Will it hurt?

- A catheter has to be introduced into your urethra, so some discomfort is to be expected. The Radiologist will numb the end of your penis with an anaesthetic gel which will ease the discomfort.

After:

- No special care is necessary following this procedure, you can return to your usual daily activities.
- If you experience any discomfort urinating, it usually resolves in less than 12 hours. Your urine may also be slightly pink after this procedure but it is not anything to worry about. You should see your GP if you experience any bleeding or difficulties with passing urine.
- The Radiologist will examine your images and send a report to the doctor who requested them.

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds.

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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