

# Cystoscopy

A cystoscopy is a procedure that lets your doctor look directly inside your urethra and bladder with an instrument called a cystoscope.

## Before the day of surgery

- Ask your doctor if you need to stop taking blood-thinning medicines like aspirin or coumadin.
- Ask your doctor if you are allowed to eat or drink anything the morning of surgery.
- A member of the Mercy staff will contact you by phone before the surgery day. Please have a list of your current medications available. We need to know about prior total joint surgery or any conditions that require you to have antibiotics before dental procedures.

## On the day of surgery

- You need to arrive 1 ½ - 2 hours before surgery. A nurse will interview you, start an IV and answer any questions you have. About 20 minutes before surgery, you will be asked to empty your bladder.
- Take medicines for heart, blood pressure or anxiety that you normally take first thing in the morning.

## The procedure

- The doctor will pass a thin tube containing a camera into the urinary passage to view all of the urinary structures.
- You will be given medication to help you be more relaxed and comfortable during the procedure. The medication can make you dizzy, forgetful or off-balance for the rest of the day. Please make arrangements for someone to drive you home.
- The procedure is short – about 30 minutes or less.
- The doctor will talk with your family member(s) or companion after the procedure.
- After your procedure, you will rest for a short time. Your nurse will give you a drink and any medications your doctor has ordered. We will review your doctor's written instructions with you before you leave.

## Going Home

- Plan to rest and drink plenty of water.
- It is not unusual to see some blood in the urine for a day or two.
- Sexual intercourse is allowed when comfortable.

## Reasons to contact your physician

- You develop a fever
- You are unable to pass urine or empty your bladder
- You have any other concerns for the urologist