

Intravenous Pyelogram

Procedure Scheduling: (319) 398-6868

WHAT IT IS:

An intravenous pyleogram, or IVP, is an x-ray of your kidneys and urinary bladder. You will receive an injection of contrast medium (iodine) into a vein in your arm just before the x-rays. A series of pictures is taken as the contrast medium moves through the urinary tract, revealing the outline of structures in the kidneys, ureters, and bladder. The procedure takes about one hour. A blood test may be required before your IVP (see note).

PREPARATION THE DAY BEFORE:

1. From 12 noon of the day before your appointment, you need to follow a clear liquid diet. Clear liquids include broth, plain jello, clear fruit drinks, black coffee, and tea. Do not eat solid foods until after the exam.
2. As close to 4:00 pm as possible, take four Dulcolax tables, one at a time, five minutes apart. During the 20-minute period the pills are being taken, you should drink two full glasses of water.
3. Supper will be limited to clear liquids.
4. You may experience some abdominal cramping and may have several bowel movements. Complete cleansing of the bowel is necessary to permit visualization of the kidneys.
5. For the remainder of the evening, clear liquids are permitted as desired.

PREPARATION THE DAY OF THE EXAM:

1. As close to 6:00 a.m. as possible, insert one Dulcolax suppository rectally.
2. Drink clear liquids until the time of the exam unless you are scheduled to have cystogram immediately following the IVP. If you are also having a cystogram, you may drink water as desired until 6:00 a.m. and then do not eat or drink anything until both examinations are complete.

PROCEDURE:

1. The x-ray technologist will explain the procedure and answer any questions.
2. You will lie on the x-ray table while the technologist injects the contrast and takes a series of x-rays.

FOLLOW-UP:

1. You will be free to return home after both the technologist and the radiologist have completed a preliminary check of the x-rays. You may eat and drink normally, unless your doctor has specifically directed otherwise.
2. The results of the exam will be sent to your doctor.

NOTE: A serum creatinine is usually required if you are over 50, diabetic, or have high blood pressure or known kidney disease. Check with your doctor's nurse. If you are to have this blood test done before the IVP, we recommend that you come on a weekday, at least one day before the IVP is scheduled. The blood test must be done within 30 days of the IVP. It may be done on the same day if you come at least one hour before your appointment time, but not before 7:00 a.m. Whenever you come to have the test done, register at Outpatient Registration (6:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday-Friday) before going to the Laboratory. SPECIAL NOTE: Please let your physician know if you have an allergy to contrast media. For patients with an allergy to contrast media, another type of exam may be considered.

OUTPATIENT REGISTRATION:

Please arrive 20 minutes before your scheduled appointment time. Park in the Mercy Medical Center Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 8th Street and 8th Avenue SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to Ground (G) level and follow the signs to "Registration." After 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the weekends, proceed to Ground (G) level and follow the signs to the "Emergency Department" and register there. After registering, follow the signs to "Radiology (X-Ray)", also located on Ground (G) level.

Your appointment date and time:

Please bring a list of current medications you are taking.