

## VIDEO URODYNAMICS

Your consultant has referred you for Urodynamic studies. This test is performed in the X-ray department. The test is performed by a female nurse and, although you may find it slightly uncomfortable, you will have complete privacy throughout the procedure. The following information will help you to understand a little more about the Urodynamic test.

### **What is Video Urodynamics?**

Video Urodynamics is the study of pressure and flow in the lower urinary tract- the bladder and tube through which you pass urine.

The test shows doctors what happens to your lower urinary tract when it is filling and emptying. X-rays are taken during the test. This test can not be performed if you are pregnant or you think you may be.

### **What will happen when I go for these investigations?**

When you arrive you will be asked to change into a gown and to empty your bladder. The nurse performing the test will have a chat with you about the bladder symptoms you have been experiencing, and explain what she will be doing during the test. You will be asked to lie down on a couch, and a fine, hollow tube called a catheter will be passed into your bladder. This catheter is used to fill the bladder. At the same time a second, much smaller, catheter will be inserted, and this is attached to a pressure-recording machine. A very fine catheter will also be inserted into your rectum, and attached to a chart recorder. The bladder-filling catheter is connected to a bottle of fluid and the bladder is filled. You will be asked to indicate when you feel the first sensation of wanting to pass urine, and then when you feel you cannot hold on much longer. The filling catheter is then removed, leaving the pressure-recording catheter in the bladder,

and you will be asked to stand and cough. You will then be asked to pass urine into a special commode, which will record the rate of flow of urine. Once this is done, the test is over and the pressure-recording catheter and the rectal catheter will be removed.

While the test is taking place, the recording device will be printing a graph of the pressure changes in your bladder.

### **How long will the procedure take?**

Approximately one half to three-quarters of an hour.

**Don't worry** - The nurse will explain every stage of the test before it is carried out. You will have complete privacy at all times, and the nurse who performs the test will stay with you throughout.

A doctor will usually see you immediately after the test, will discuss the findings with you and advise you about any treatment which might be indicated. If a doctor is not available, a further appointment will be sent to you or made on the day.

If you are taking any of the following medications, they will need to be stopped for a time. Contact your GP or a pharmacist if you are unsure about your medication.

If you take Imipramine or Amitriptyline, stop taking them two weeks prior to the test. If you have been taking these drugs for more than 8 weeks, see your GP, as they need to be stopped slowly.

If you take Tryptizol, Ditropan, Oxybutynin, Cystrin, Propantheline Bromide, Flavoxate, Urispas, Vesicare, Detrusitol, Regurin, Flomax (Tamsulosin), Xatral (Alfuzosin) or Ephedrine, stop taking them one week before the test.