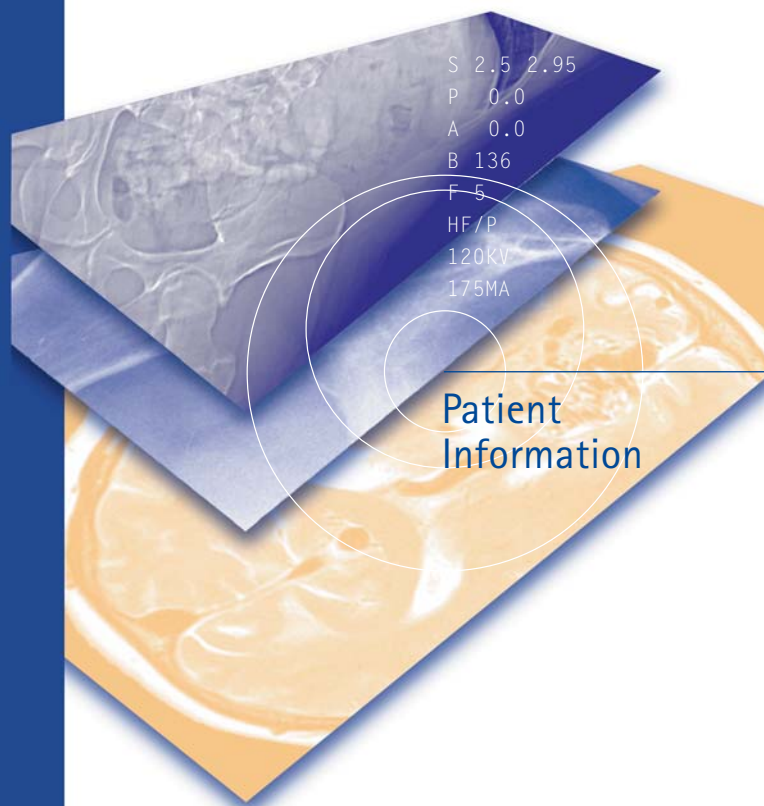


Please bring any previous x-rays with you on the day of your examination

Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP)



Your next appointment:

Date: _____

Time: _____

What is an IVP?

An IVP is an x-ray examination of your kidneys and bladder. Because the kidneys and bladder are soft tissue, normally they would not show up very clearly on an x-ray. It is necessary to use contrast medium that outlines the kidneys and bladder on an x-ray picture.

Preparation

You will be given instructions on how to prepare for the IVP when you ring to make an appointment. Please follow these instructions carefully. They may require you to follow a special diet and take some laxative tablets.

If you have diabetes, please ensure that you have an early morning appointment.

You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire and sign a consent form.

If you have previously had an adverse reaction to a contrast medium, please inform us.

Please take your normal medication with a sip of water.

Procedure

At the time of the procedure, the contrast medium will be injected into a vein in your arm and from there it will pass into your kidneys and bladder. A series of x-rays will be taken following this injection.

There may be a mild feeling of warmth, often localised in the face or lower part of the abdomen. X-rays are taken as the various parts of the urinary tract fill. It may be necessary to apply an abdominal binder for compression of the abdomen for about 5-10 minutes. This is rarely uncomfortable and is avoided in painful conditions.

What if I am allergic to x-ray contrast or have asthma?

You should discuss this with your referring doctor and also let us know when you are making an appointment. Alternative tests such as ultrasound scanning may be sufficient. If an IVP is essential, this can be performed at our x-ray rooms in a hospital setting. Pre-medication with cortisone may be prescribed in consultation with your referring doctor and the radiologist.

How long will the procedure take?

The procedure may take approximately one hour, or longer if 'delayed films' are required.

The radiologist will examine your films and send a report to your doctor.