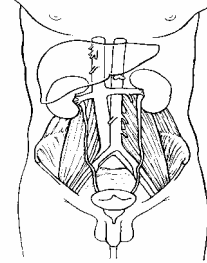


INTRAVENOUS PYELOGRAM (IVP) *Patient Education*

What is the purpose of this test?

An IVP is an x-ray examination of the kidneys, ureters, and urinary bladder. Contrast material is injected into your arm and its progress through the urinary system is recorded on a series of x-ray images. The radiologist can review the anatomy and function of the kidneys and urinary tract. Your physician may order an IVP study for frequent urination, blood in urine, pain in back or side, internal injuries, or other changes in the urinary system.



How should I prepare for this test?

You should inform your physician about any allergies you have to food or medications, as well as any recent illnesses or other medical conditions. Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the day before the exam. You will need to take a mild laxative the evening before the procedure. Morning medications may be taken with small sips of water. If you are diabetic, make sure your doctor is aware of your condition and the medication you are taking. You will have blood drawn for testing prior to your procedure.

How will this test affect me?

The technologist will take you to the exam room and ask you several questions regarding medical history and allergies. You will receive an injection of the contrast into a vein in your arm. Some patients state that they have a flush of heat during the injection procedure and a metallic taste. These common side effects usually disappear within a minute or two. The contrast agent used for IVP studies will not discolor your urine or cause any discomfort when you urinate. It is important to have your full cooperation and inform the technologist if you have any other side effects, such as itching, during the procedure.

How is this test performed?

You will be asked to put on a gown and positioned on the x-ray table on your back. X-ray images are taken before the injection and then a series of images after the injection. Other than the mild discomfort from the injection, this procedure should be painless. You may be asked to change your body position, such as rolling side to side, for different images throughout your exam. As the contrast is being processed through your urinary tract, x-rays will document the size of the kidneys, the flow of contrast through the collecting system, and evaluation of the bladder. You may be asked to empty your bladder at the end of the exam so that evacuation of the bladder can be assessed. An IVP exam takes approximately one hour.

How will I receive results of the test?

Results will be sent to your physician who will discuss the results with you.

CONTACT YOUR PHYSICIAN FOR FURTHER QUESTIONS