Care Gram

Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP)

Date of Test: _____ Test Time: _____

Welcome
Welcome to the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Radiology Department. Your doctor has requested an Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP). This is a test of the urinary tract (kidneys, ureters, and bladder). It is done by a radiographer who is certified in the use of X-ray equipment. It will be read by a radiologist who is a doctor specializing in medical diagnosis by X-ray.

How the Test Works
X-rays pass through the soft tissues of the body, such as the urinary tract. For this test, a special medication called a contrast agent will be used. This will help the urinary tract show up as clearly as bones. The medication travels through the blood to the kidneys to help the radiologist see if the kidneys are working right. The contrast agent then drains through the ureters (tubes) into the bladder, which will show up on the image.

Total Time
This test may take about one hour.

Special Lab Instructions
You may need to have a blood test before having this contrast agent. This blood test will provide information about your kidney function. The body needs the kidneys to remove the contrast agent used for this test. If a blood test is required, you will be asked to visit the Laboratory to have a blood sample taken before your IVP.

Registration
Please report directly to the Registration area on the LMH First Floor at least 20 minutes before your scheduled test time. You will be asked to present your driver's license, insurance cards, and a list of your medications.

Preparation for Adults (18 Years and Older)
<u>Day before IVP:</u>
Do not eat or drink after 10:00 p.m. You may take your regular medications with no more than 4 ounces of water.

Day of IVP test:
Drink 8 ounces of water and take your regular medications. After that, do not eat or drink until after your test.

Preparation for Children (17 Years and Younger)
Do not eat or drink for 4 hours before the test.

Special Test Instructions
- During the test, relax and do what you are asked. It is very important to hold your breath when asked.
- If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, be sure to let the doctor know before the test begins.
- Notify the registered nurse (RN) or radiographer if you have a history of kidney disease, or if you take an oral diabetic or blood-thinning medication.

For Parents of Children
1. Be patient, yet firm, during the test. You may stay in the room with your child during the test. Your child may be held still during some parts of the test.
2. Talk with your child before the test and help them understand what to expect.

During an IVP
- You will need to wear a gown and robe. The nurse or radiographer will ask a few questions and obtain a signed consent. You will be positioned on a table under a piece of X-ray equipment. The radiographer will take two X-rays to begin. There will be a short wait while the radiologist checks the images.
- The contrast agent will be injected from a syringe into a vein in the arm or hand. If the doctor has ordered any laboratory testing, we will try to get the blood samples at the same time.
- The injection may make you:
  - Feel warm and flushed
  - Have a metal taste in the mouth
  - Feel the need to urinate

  These reactions are normal, will last only 1-2 minutes, and are not cause for concern.

- **Please let the radiographer know if you begin to:**
  - **Itch**
  - **Feel short of breath**
  - **Have problems swallowing**
  - **Feel uncomfortable**

- During the test, you may be asked to lie flat on your back. At times, you will be asked to stay still and hold your breath so that X-rays can be taken. Near the end of the test, you may be asked to empty your bladder by urinating. After you empty your bladder, another X-ray will be taken.

This Care Gram is for information purposes only. It may become out-of-date over time. Ask a doctor or a healthcare professional about your specific condition.

After the Test

You will need to wait while the radiologist reviews the X-rays. More X-rays may be required to get more information.

- The contrast agent will come out in the urine. It should not discolor the urine or stool.
- Be sure to drink plenty of fluids to help the body rid itself of the contrast agent. If the doctor has told you not to drink too much, please check with him or her for precise instructions.
- You may eat a regular diet after the test, unless your doctor tells you otherwise or unless there are other planned tests.

Finding Out the Results

The radiologist will study the test and give the findings to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you.

Reminders

- If you have any questions about this test, please call (220) 564-4710.
- Please arrive in the Registration area on the LMH First Floor at least 20 minutes before your test.

1616-0500
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