

Patient Information: Urodynamics

Urodynamics are a specialised set of investigations designed to objectively measure bladder function.

- The procedure takes approximately 40 minutes to perform
- You will be requested to give a sample of urine before the test
- A soft plastic tube is passed into the bladder in order to fill the bladder with fluid
- A second tube is passed into the bladder in order to measure the pressure in your bladder as it fills
- A third tube is passed into the rectum in order to measure the pressure in your abdomen
- Your bladder will be filled
- You will be asked to cough on a number of occasions
- You may be requested to rinse your hands in cold water to cause a bladder contraction
- When your bladder is full you will be requested to empty your bladder into a portable toilet- like receptacle
- There is a very small risk of urinary infection after this test; you will be advised to attend your general practitioner or the hospital if you develop any symptoms suggestive of infection (pain passing urine, lower abdominal pain or backache, fever). If you are considered to be at high-risk of infection, you may be given preventive antibiotics.
- If you are on medications to treat bladder control problems, you may be asked to stop these for three days prior to this test; you may recommence them afterwards
- If you have a ring pessary in the vagina (to treat prolapse), this will be removed prior to the test and replaced afterwards