

Patient Instructions

Patient name

Date and Time of procedure

Pediatric Voiding Cystourethrogram

Please report to the Radiology Department on the 3rd floor at Christie Clinic, 101 W. University Ave. in Champaign. 217-366-1285.

What does this test show?

A children's (pediatric) voiding cystourethrogram (VCUG) is an x-ray examination of a child's bladder and lower urinary tract that uses a contrast material and a special form of x-ray called fluoroscopy and is used to see internal organs in motion.



What will happen during the procedure?

The technologist begins by positioning the child on the table. Infants and young children may be wrapped tightly in a blanket or other restraint to help them lie still during the exam.

An x-ray is taken of the bladder. After cleaning the genital area, a catheter, which is a flexible plastic tube, is inserted through the urethra. The urethra is a tube that carries urine from the bladder out of the body. The radiologist and/or the technologist will watch the fluoroscopic monitor while the bladder is filling to see if any of the liquid goes backward into one or both ureters. The catheter is then withdrawn and several x-ray images are taken as the child empties his or her bladder. A final x-ray is taken when the child has voided completely.

The child will need to hold very still and may be asked to keep from breathing for a few seconds while the x-ray picture is taken to reduce the possibility of a blurred image.

When the examination is complete, you will be asked to wait until the radiologist determines that all the necessary images have been obtained.

What will my child experience during and after the procedure?

A voiding cystourethrogram is usually painless, though young children can be frightened when they are tightly wrapped and unable to move. The antiseptic used to clean and prepare for the insertion of the catheter may feel cold. Some children may experience mild discomfort and the feeling of the need to urinate when the catheter is inserted and the bladder is filled with the contrast material.

A parent is allowed to stay in the room to comfort the child, but will be required to wear a lead apron to prevent radiation exposure. If the mother is pregnant, she will not be able to stay in the room during the x-ray portion of the procedure.

How long with the exam take?

This exam will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

How do I get the results?

Your physician will contact you by phone or mail as soon as your test results are received and reviewed.

Please return for a follow-up appointment with

Dr. _____

On _____ at _____

If you have not received your results in two weeks following this study, please contact your physician's office.