

URODYNAMIC STUDIES

- This painless test evaluates problems your bladder may have emptying or storing urine.

Why You Need A Urodynamic Study

- You are incontinent (leak urine)
- Your bladder does not empty completely
- You have uncomfortable symptoms, such as the frequent need to urinate
- You have persistent urinary tract symptoms

Your Lower Urinary Tract

The lower urinary tract has two main functions: storing and emptying urine. The bladder is a muscle-lined organ that collects urine until you are ready to release it. The urethra is a tube that carries urine from the bladder out of the body. Pelvic floor muscles support the bladder and urethra to keep them in the proper position. To store urine, the bladder muscle stays relaxed as the urethral muscle (sphincter) contracts. To empty urine, the urethral sphincter and pelvic floor muscles relax while the bladder contracts.

What to Expect During A Urodynamic Study

Urodynamic testing provides valuable data on bladder function. This allows your physician to make the best recommendations for treatment. The test will take approximately one hour. Do not schedule your appointment while you are on your period. After you arrive for your test, the nurse will take a bladder history that requires you to answer a few questions regarding your urinary system. You will be asked to empty your bladder into the bedside commode. The nurse will then insert a small catheter through the urethra into the bladder. Through this catheter, your bladder will be filled with a saline solution. A second catheter will be placed in the vagina to provide additional data. You will be asked to report any sensations you feel and whether they are similar to ones you have felt at home. You will also be asked to cough, bear down (Valsalva maneuver) or stand during the test. You will empty your bladder one more time and then the catheters will be removed, the test is over and you will be able to get dressed. Remember that urodynamic testing is painless.

How To Schedule An Appointment

Appointments can be made by calling (260) 432-4400 and following the prompts for scheduling an appointment. You may also schedule at our Front Desk. Urodynamic testing is done at our Parkview North office every other Tuesday and every Wednesday, and our Columbia City office every other Tuesday.

Interpretation Of Your Urodynamic Test

Upon completing the Urodynamic test, you will be asked to set up an appointment for interpretation of your test results.