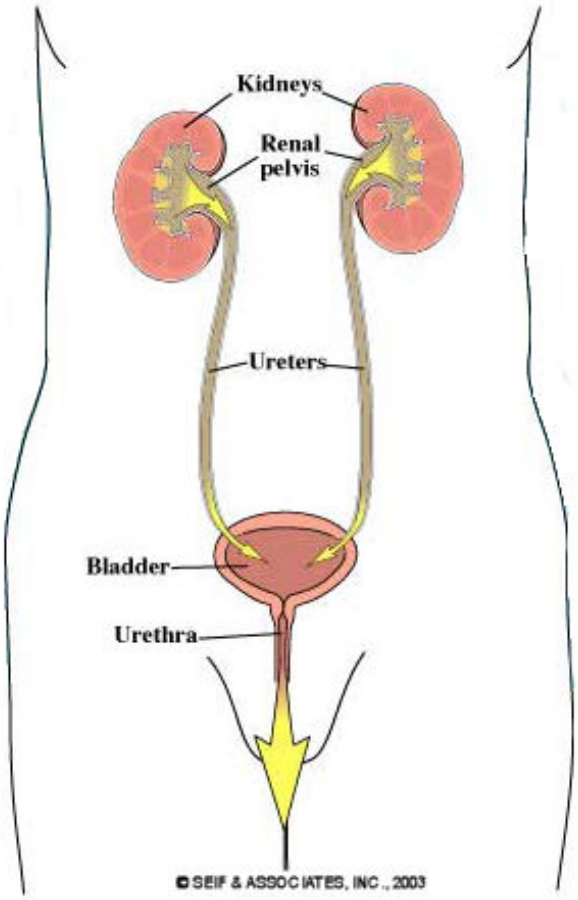
Urodynamic Study

What is a Urodynamic Study?

A Urodynamic Study is a set of tests and x-rays. It helps your doctor see how different parts of your body work including your:

- Bladder.
- Urethra (tube in your body from the bladder to the outside).
- Sphincters (valves in your body that control your pee).

These tests help to find out why you are having problems holding on to your pee or with peeing.



When a urodynamic study is done?

- Two small tubes (*catheters*) are used. One is put in your bladder and the other is put into where your poop comes out (*rectum*).
- The tube that is put into your bladder will be filled with a cup of sterile water. The tubes help check how your bladder is doing as it is being filled up.
- Once your bladder is filled, x-rays are taken while you cough or push down as if you were trying to poop.
- This test will show why you are having a problem with pee leaking.
- In the last part of the test, you will need to pee while the tube is still in your bladder.
- The whole test will take about 30 - 45 minutes. When it is done, your doctor will talk to you about what kinds of treatments may work best for you.

Here are some words you will want to understand:

Catheter. A thin, soft tube that is put into your bladder so pee can drain out.
Electrode. A little patch put onto your skin that measures how well your muscle is working.
Neurogenic bladder. When there is no control of the flow of pee because the nerves that tell the sphincter what to do are damaged.
Urologist. A doctor whose specialty is the urinary system in men and women, and in the reproductive system (the body parts that have to do with making a baby) in men.
Void. To pass pee from your bladder to the outside of your body, to pee.

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