Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP)

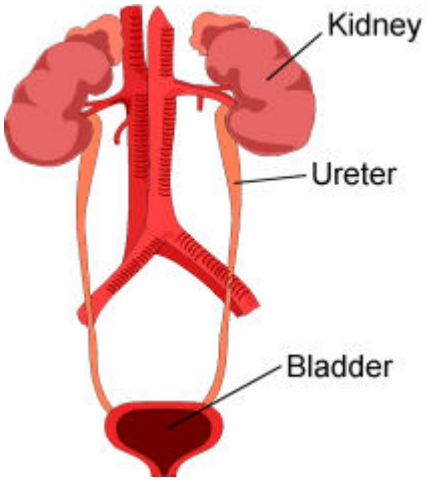
An *intravenous pyelogram* (*IVP*) is a test to evaluate your kidney function. This test will evaluate your entire urinary tract including the kidneys, *ureters* (the tubes which carry the urine from the kidneys to the bladder), and bladder. The success of the test depends on you. You will receive instructions for eating and drinking before the test. A laxative may be needed the night before your test. This will be determined by your caregiver. Prepare for your test as directed to avoid rescheduling. The test usually takes an hour. Arrive at the hospital one hour early to check in.

LET YOUR CAREGIVER OR X-RAY TECHNOLOGIST KNOW ABOUT THE FOLLOWING:

- Allergies, especially to iodine or seafood.
- Medicines taken including herbs, eye drops, over the counter medications, and creams
- Use of steroids (by mouth or creams)
- Previous problems with anesthetics or novocaine
- Possibility of pregnancy, if this applies
- History of blood clots (*thrombophlebitis*)
- History of bleeding or blood problems
- Previous surgery
- Previous kidney or bladder problems
- Other health problems, especially Diabetes.

DURING YOUR TEST:

You will be given intravenous (IV) dye called *contrast* which is passed in the urine. This is necessary so the physician and the *radiologist* (a specialist in reading x-rays) can see your kidneys and urinary tract better on the x-ray. The contrast may make you feel warm or give you a strange taste in your mouth. This does not last long. During the test the technologist will tell you how to move and when to hold still as x-rays are taken. Pressure may be applied to your belly to get better pictures. You may be asked to empty your bladder before the final x-ray. Relax as much as possible during the test. Try to follow instructions to insure the highest quality results.



AFTER YOUR TEST:

- You may resume normal diet and activities.
- Call for your x-ray results as instructed by your caregiver or technician.
- See your caregiver in three days or as instructed.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION IF:

- You have difficulty breathing.
- You develop a rash.
- An allergic reaction develops.

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