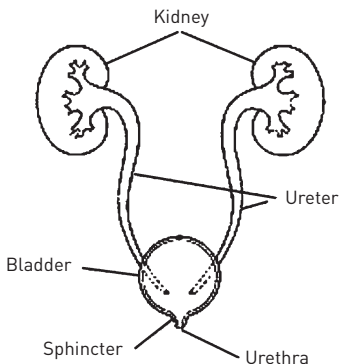


IVP: INTRAVENOUS PYELOGRAM

Patient Information

This is an examination of the urinary tract which includes the kidneys, ureters and the bladder. This is the human excretory system.

DIAGRAM



To demonstrate this system on x-ray, contrast (x-ray dye) is administered into a vein. This contrast circulates with the blood, is filtered out of the blood by the kidneys and then flows down the ureters and into the bladder.

A radiographer will take a series of x-rays to demonstrate the anatomy and function of the urinary tract. A radiologist (medical specialist) interprets the diagnostic images taken by the radiographer. Specialized equipment in which the camera swings during the exposure is required for an IVP so not all sites can perform these examinations.

Preparation

It is important to ensure you are fasted from food and fluids for at least four (4) hours prior to the examination and sometimes a bowel preparation (oral laxative) may be given the previous night. This is to minimize the risk of bowel contents obscuring the kidneys.

Examination Time

An IVP typically takes approximately one hour.

Procedure

You need to change into an x-ray gown to ensure no clothing shadows overly the anatomy.

You need to lie on the x-ray table as the radiographer takes preliminary films.

For IVP films you need to breathe in and out and **hold your breath out** to ensure there is no movement or blurring of the images.

A special needle (called a cannula) will be inserted into a vein on the back of your hand or the front of your elbow and remains there for 15-20 minutes.

The contrast will be administered through this cannula. It is normal to receive a warm flush as the contrast is injected.

IMPORTANT NOTE: As with the injection of any medication, there is a small risk of reaction. It is essential that you make the radiographer aware of any known allergies prior to the injection. If you have a history of MAJOR ALLERGIES, ASTHMA OR DIABETES you must inform the bookings staff when you make your appointment.

Films are taken at regular intervals as the contrast is excreted by the kidneys and as it flows down the ureters to the bladder.

The cannula will be removed nearing the end of the examination.

You will then be asked to go to the toilet to empty your bladder and a final film is taken after that.

At the end of the examination you may dress and resume your normal diet.

For further enquiries about this procedure, contact our rooms at:

Caboolture (07) 5495 2077

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