

# **INTRAVENOUS UROGRAM (IVU)**

## **What is it?**

An IVU is an Xray examination of the kidneys, ureters and bladder. It is performed by injecting a small amount of Xray fluid [contrast] into a vein in your arm . Following this multiple Xrays are taken under the direction of a Radiologist. The test usually takes between 30 - 45 minutes to complete.

## **What preparation is needed for the examination?**

You should have nothing to eat or drink for four hours prior to the examination time.

If you suffer from asthma, myeloma , have poor kidney function or are diabetic taking Metformin (Glucophage) tablets, you **MUST** contact the hospital to speak to the radiology nurses, at least 2 - 3 days prior to your examination, as some extra preparation may be required.

## **What happens during the examination?**

When you arrive in the Department either a radiographer, radiographer's helper or nurse will take you into a cubicle to get you changed for the examination. They will then take you into the fluoroscopic (x-ray) room, where the Consultant Radiologist (doctor) will explain the examination prior to performing it. Please feel free to ask the doctor any questions you may have.

You will be asked to lie on the x-ray table and the radiologist will put a needle into your arm and inject the Xray fluid (contrast). Following the injection, you may experience a warm feeling and possibly a metallic taste ; this is quite usual. X-rays are then taken at 5 minute intervals over the next 30 minutes or so.

**Does an IVU hurt?**

The procedure may be a little uncomfortable, and you may experience a warm feeling following the injection, but it is not painful and the examination is very safe.

**How long will it take?**

Approximately 30 - 45 minutes. Occasionally the examination may take longer and this will be explained to you during the examination.

**When will I get my results?**

When you have had the examination, the radiographer will tell you how and approximately when you will get the results but they are usually sent to the doctor who referred you to us within 48 hours.

**Aftercare**

There is no specific aftercare but you should drink plenty of fluid for the rest of the day.

# HCA

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