

Cystometry (Measurement of Bladder Pressure)

A cystometrogram (CMG) measures how much your bladder can hold, how much pressure builds up inside your bladder as it stores urine, and how full it is when you feel the urge to urinate. The doctor or nurse will use a catheter to empty your bladder completely. Then a special, smaller catheter will be placed in the bladder. This catheter has a pressure-measuring device called a manometer. Another catheter may be placed in the rectum to record pressure there as well. Your bladder will be filled slowly with warm water. During this time you will be asked how your bladder feels and when you feel the need to urinate. The volume of water and the bladder pressure will be recorded. You may be asked to cough or strain during this procedure. Involuntary bladder contractions can be identified.

Measurement of Leak Point Pressure

While your bladder is being filled for the CMG, it may suddenly contract and squeeze some water out without warning. The manometer will record the pressure at the point when the leakage occurred. This reading may provide information about the kind of bladder problem you have. You may also be asked to apply abdominal pressure to the bladder by coughing, shifting position, or trying to exhale while holding your nose and mouth. These actions help the doctor evaluate your sphincter muscles.

Pressure Flow Study

After the CMG, you will be asked to empty your bladder. The catheter can measure the bladder pressures required to urinate and the flow rate a given pressure generates. This pressure flow study helps to identify bladder outlet obstruction that men may experience with prostate enlargement. Bladder outlet obstruction is less common in women but can occur with a fallen bladder or rarely after a surgical procedure for urinary incontinence. Most catheters can be used for both CMG and pressure flow studies.

Video Urodynamics

Urodynamic tests may be performed with or without equipment to take pictures of the bladder during filling and emptying. The imaging equipment may use x rays or sound waves. If x-ray equipment is used, the bladder will be filled with a contrast medium that will show up on the x ray instead of the warm water. The pictures and videos show the size and shape of the urinary tract and help your doctor understand your problem.

After the Test

You may have mild discomfort for a few hours after these tests when you urinate. Drinking plenty of water should help. If you have signs of infection—including pain, chills, or fever—call your doctor at once. Minor blood in the urine is from the catheter insertion and is expected. Mild pain responds to Panadol or Panadeine.

What are the possible risks of surgery ?

- Urethral trauma, or stricture
- Infection – Urine, Blood
- Bleeding
- Bladder injury
- Failed procedure

Getting the Results

A follow up consultation about a week after the procedure will be made for you to discuss the results with the Doctor where you will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss possible treatments for your problem.

Should we add:

- Day procedure
- Claiming info eg medicare & private health fund.
- Date & time of procedure.
- Can drive self to & from - Take 1/2 hour