

About your Intravenous Urogram (IVU)

i Information for patients
Radiology



PROUD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SHEFFIELD TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



You and your doctor will have talked about the need for you to have an IVU examination and decided to go ahead. This leaflet tells you more about the examination you will be having.

What is an IVU?

An Intravenous Urogram (sometimes called Excretory Urogram) is an X-ray examination of the urinary tract, which consists of the kidneys and bladder and the tubes (ureters) that connect them.

Will I need any special preparation?

No, you may eat and drink normally, but avoid large amounts of food and drink for 3 hours before the examination.

Will I need an injection?

Yes, in order to see the kidneys and bladder on the X-ray pictures it is necessary to inject a substance called contrast agent into a vein in your arm. Several X-ray pictures are then taken at set intervals.

How long will I be at the hospital?

It varies considerably, but the average time is one hour.

Is it painful?

No, apart from the injection, the examination is painless.

How safe is the examination?

All doses of radiation carry some risks, however, in the Radiology Department we are trained to keep the dose as low as possible, thus reducing any risks. The doctor who asked for the test to be done will have decided that the benefits of having the examination are greater than the risks.

There is a greater risk to a developing baby (especially in the early and mid stages). If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant then it is very important that you tell the Radiographer before you have the test.

Is it safe to continue taking any medicines I am on?

If you are diabetic, and you take Metformin (glucophage) you must tell us as soon as possible before the examination as we may need to arrange a blood test.

Please continue to take all other medicines or tablets prescribed by your doctor.

Will I be able to drive home after the test?

Yes, there are no lasting side effects.

When will I get the results?

The X-rays are carefully examined after your test and the results sent to the doctor who ordered the test. You will get the results of the test at your next appointment with that doctor.

How do I get to the Radiology department?

The Radiology department is on C floor of the in patient building at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

If you are driving to the hospital

If you are coming to hospital by car please be aware that parking is limited. You may need to allow more time to find a parking space.

For information on Public Transport to and from the hospital please telephone:

Traveline on: **01709 51 51 51**

or website: **travelsouthyorkshire.com**

Contact details

If you cannot keep your appointment, or you have more questions you want to ask please contact us on:

- **0114 226 8000**

Monday to Saturday: 8.00am - 8.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am - 6.00pm



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