



PATIENT INFORMATION IVP (Intravenous Pyelogram)

YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME IS:

TIME:

DAY:

DATE:

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO
BRING YOUR REFERRAL AND
ANY PREVIOUS FILMS.**

What is an IVP?

An IVP (intravenous pyelogram) is an x-ray examination of the urinary tract (kidneys, uterers and bladder). As well as showing the size and shape of these structures, it also gives an indication of how well they are functioning.

Do I need to do anything?

For best results, the bowel needs to be clear. Epsom salts are taken at 8pm the night before, then nothing to eat or drink for four hours before your appointment.

What happens?

As kidneys and bladder are soft tissue structures do not show up very clearly on x-ray, it is necessary to inject a contrast medium (x-ray dye) to get a clear picture. The dye is not radioactive.

Non-ionic contrast is used, which is much safer than conventional ionic ones, ensuring you receive the best quality medical care.

Some preliminary plain films are taken and then an injection is given into a vein in back of the hand or the elbow. The contrast which circulates through the blood stream, is filtered out by the kidneys and then passes down the uterers to the bladder. Films are taken at regular intervals to assess the function of the kidneys. Because the kidneys move when you breathe, you will be asked to briefly hold your breath to avoid possible blurring of the images, resulting in loss of detail.

A wide band may be put around the waist and tightened for a few minutes to stop the contrast from draining into the bladder too quickly.

This is most important as it assists in providing better pictures of the kidneys.

Before the end of the examination, you will be asked to empty your bladder and then the last film is taken.

How long will it take?

The examination will take approximately 1 hour. In some cases, delayed films may need to be taken which may prolong the procedure.

Are there any side effects?

As with all injections and medications, there is a very small chance of allergy to contrast medium (x-ray dye). Therefore, please inform the staff of any allergies before the injection is given. You will be required to fill out a brief questionnaire prior to the test, regarding your medical history. You may drive afterwards, as the injection does not affect your eyesight and you may return to normal duties straightaway.

IVPS' are available at Illawarra Radiology Group at the following branches:

-Wollongong

**383 Crown St
Wollongong 2500
Phone: 422878883**

-Shellharbour

**Suite 1, Professional Centre
Stockland Shellharbour 2529
Phone: 42967222**

-Corrimal

**3/83 Railway St Corrimal
Phone: 42852119**