

Radiology Associates of Ithaca

"YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD RADIOLOGISTS PRACTICING WORLD CLASS IMAGING"
101 Dates Drive, Ithaca, New York 14850

Intravenous Pyelography (IVP) or Urogram

Imaging (Radiology) Procedures

What is the test? IVP examines the urinary system, which includes the kidneys, ureters (the tiny tubes that carry urine from the kidneys to the bladder), and bladder. This test helps your doctor identify and locate cysts, stones, tumors, and other abnormalities in the urinary tract.

How do I prepare? Be sure and tell the radiologist in advance if you have any medication or food allergies, hay fever, or asthma. If you are on Glucophage (metformin) please consult your doctor regarding stopping and then resuming your medication following the exam.

On the day before your IVP, consume only clear liquids from 8 p.m. on. Please refrain from eating or drinking anything for the two hours before your exam.

What can I expect during the procedure? Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled exam. You will be asked to change into a gown but you may keep your undergarments on. You will lie down on an examining table and the radiologist or radiology nurse will inject a contrast medium into your arm. You may feel a warm flush, which is very common, and have a metallic taste in your mouth. However, if you experience any itchiness, shortness of breath, or nausea let the radiologist know right away. A technologist will take x-rays at different intervals, and you may be asked to empty your bladder so other x-rays can be taken for comparison. The study usually takes 1 to 2 hours, but could take longer in cases of a renal obstruction.

After the test? You may return to your regular diet and resume normal activities. It's best to drink plenty of water and fruit juice (beverages without caffeine) following an IVP. If you experience any delayed reaction to the contrast medium, such as hives, call your doctor.

How and when will I get my test results? Typically, within 48 hours a written report of your test results will be sent to your referring physician, who will review them with you. Additional time (3 to 5 days) may be required if we are comparing these test results to previous findings from another hospital.

Where is this test performed? IVP is performed only at Cayuga Medical Center at 101 Dates Drive, off NYS Route 96 in Ithaca.