Intravenous Urogram

About the test
An intravenous urogram (IVU) is a test that shows the function of your kidneys, ureters (the tubes that carry urine to your bladder), and your bladder. It is often done to check for kidney stones or other diseases of the kidneys and bladder. This test is also called an intravenous pyelogram (IVP).

Important to tell us
- If you are pregnant, or think you might be pregnant, tell the radiologist before the test is done.
- If you have an allergy to contrast medicine, tell the doctor or radiologist.

To prepare for the test
It is very important for the radiologist, a doctor who specializes in radiology, to have a clear view of your kidneys. To be sure that your kidneys will be visible, please follow these instructions:

Day Before Your Test:
- Eat a light lunch. For dinner or supper, have only liquids, such as broth, juice, water, tea, Jell-o, or soft drinks. You should not have solid food or milk products.
- After supper (between 5 PM to 7 PM), drink a 10-ounce bottle of chilled Magnesium Citrate over ice. This can be purchased over the counter at any pharmacy store.
- **DO NOT eat or drink after midnight the night before the exam until after the exam is complete.** Ask your doctor about any medicines you are taking.
- If you are diabetic, do not take your insulin. You will not be eating until the test is completed. You may take your insulin once you are able to eat after the test.

Day of Your Test:
- If you take a medication called Metformin, do not take it the day of your exam.
Day of the test

- Please arrive 20 minutes before your appointment time.
- Bring with you a list of your current medicines, your insurance card, and a photo ID.

During the test

- A quick blood test may be done before your exam to check your kidney function.
- The test will last about 1 to 2 hours. The staff will try to make you as comfortable as possible. Please tell us if you have discomfort.
- Several x-rays, called preliminary films, will be taken.
- A special medicine, called contrast, will be injected through a small needle or an IV line if you have one in place. This medicine allows your kidneys and bladder to show up on the x-rays. You may get a warm or metallic taste in your mouth when the contrast material is injected. Please tell the technologist or radiologist how you are feeling during the test.
- The contrast medicine will travel through your blood stream to your kidneys. Your kidneys will filter it out of your blood and send it down the ureters (tubes) to your bladder. While this is happening, a series of x-rays will be taken. You may then be taken to the restroom and asked to empty your bladder. One or two more x-rays may be taken before the test is finished.
- The radiologist, a doctor who specializes in radiology, will study your x-rays and send a final report to the doctor who ordered the test. If this was not your primary care doctor, you may request a copy of the report to be sent to him or her.

After the tests

- If you have no other tests scheduled, you will be able to return to your normal diet and activities.
- Drink plenty of fluids for the next 24 hours to help eliminate any remaining contrast medicine from your bladder. The contrast material is a clear liquid, so you should not see a color change in your urine.
- If you have any problems or questions after your test, call your doctor.
- If you take the medicine Metformin, you need to wait 48 hours after the test to resume taking this medicine.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 614-293-4333. Radiology Scheduling will connect you to a qualified staff member who will answer your questions.