IVP Instructions

An intravenous pyelogram (IVP) is a radiology study of the kidneys, ureters and bladder. X-ray images are taken as X-ray contrast (a clear liquid dye) enters the kidneys, travels down the ureters and is stored in the bladder. The contrast leaves the body the next time the child goes to the bathroom, although he or she will not see any unusual color in the urine.

Procedure

The radiology nurse will review your medical records and may need to call you one to two days before this study to ask questions about your child’s current medications and health.

If your child has not recently had BUN and Creatine blood tests, radiology will order them and your child will be sent to lab. Upon returning to the radiology department, the radiology nurse will apply a numbing cream on your child’s hand and/or arm. This special cream will allow the nurse to insert a needle into your child’s vein with little or no discomfort.

When the nurse is ready, you and your child will go to the radiology examination room and he or she will lie on the X-ray table. A clear liquid called ‘contrast’ will be injected through the needle and into your child’s vein. Your child will not feel the contrast, but the contrast causes the urinary tract to appear white on X-ray film. X-ray images will be taken every few minutes for up to one hour after injection and the entire study may take up to two hours. When the study is completed, the needle will be removed and you and your child may leave radiology.

Additional Information

- No preparation is necessary for this exam. Your child may eat and drink as usual.
- Give all medicine at the regular time unless otherwise directed by the radiology department or your child’s doctor.
- Please call (214) 559-7450 if you need to cancel or reschedule your child’s appointment or if you have any questions or concerns about this procedure.

After the IVP

Your child should drink one to two glasses of liquid (water, milk or juice) after the procedure.