

Procedures/Risks: nephrology/urology

Renal (kidney) ultrasound

Procedure: A renal (kidney) ultrasound will be done to determine [state purpose, e.g., that no serious medical problems that involve your kidneys exist (e.g., kidney stones), assess abnormalities, amount of urine remaining in the bladder, etc.]. You will be asked to lie quietly on a table for about 30 minutes while ultrasound waves make an image of your kidney. The procedure is not painful and does not involve inserting anything into your body.

Risks: There are no known risks to the ultrasound procedure.

Urodynamic Study

Procedure: The urodynamic procedure is used to measure how well your bladder functions. Catheters (thin plastic tubing) with pressure sensors are placed through the urethra into your bladder and into your rectum. The pressure in your bladder and rectum are measured while your bladder is filled with saline (salt water) or dye solution. You may be asked to do three things during the urodynamic procedure:

- 1) cough (or to bear-down) several times during this procedure.
- 2) try to stop any desire to empty your bladder during the procedure if you have bladder sensation.
- 3) tell the person conducting the urodynamic study when you feel you can no longer hold the urine in your bladder if you have bladder sensation.

Images may be taken at various time points during this procedure. The urodynamic study will take from 30 minutes to one hour complete.

Risks: From the urodynamic study you may feel some mild to moderate discomfort.