Cystometrogram (CMG)

How and why a CMG is done

A cystometrogram measures the pressure inside your bladder. This tells us the strength of your bladder muscle, and the amount of urine your bladder can hold without causing problems.

Reasons for CMG

A CMG is done to find out:

- Bladder size.
- How hard your bladder squeezes to empty.
- How much urine your bladder can hold.

You will not need to do anything special to prepare for this study.

How is it done?

A small tube (catheter) is placed in your bladder. This tube is connected to a pressure sensor on the CMG machine. Through the other opening in the catheter, your bladder will be filled with sterile water or carbon dioxide gas.

You will be asked:

- Do you feel some bladder pressure?
- When is the pressure enough to make you want to go to the bathroom?
- When is the pressure great enough that you cannot hold your urine any longer?

Your bladder volume and the pressure of your bladder muscle will be recorded on a graph. You will then be allowed to urinate (or use a catheter if that is how you empty your bladder).
Questions?

Call 206-598-4800

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC clinic staff are also available to help at any time.

Rehab Medicine Clinic
206-598-4295

Rehabilitation Unit
206-598-4800

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Risks

There may be increased risk of urinary tract infection. Let your health care provider know right away if:

- You have burning or pain when you urinate.
- Your urine becomes cloudy or foul-smelling.
- You have fever or chills.
- You have increased urine leakage after the study.

For some people with a high spinal cord injury, autonomic dysreflexia could occur. Symptoms of autonomic dysreflexia can include:

- High blood pressure.
- Severe headache.
- Sweating or a "flushed" feeling.

If any of these symptoms occur during the test, tell the doctor or nurse RIGHT AWAY.

Notes:

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