

# Flexible Urethral Cystoscopy

*For patients at UW Medical Center - Northwest*

*This handout explains urethral cystoscopy. This procedure is done to diagnose problems in the bladder and urethra.*

You are scheduled for a cystoscopy at UW Northwest Hospital, on the 3rd floor of the McMurray Building, 1536 N115th St, Seattle, WA, 98133

- General Urology Clinic – Suite 300
- Pelvic Health Center – Suite 320
- Kidney Stone Center – Suite 300



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## What is a cystoscopy?

A *cystoscopy* is a procedure that lets your doctor see inside your bladder and urethra (the tube that carries urine out of the bladder when you urinate). This procedure uses a *cystoscope*, a special tube with a small camera at the end. Most people feel mild discomfort during the procedure.

## What to expect

- Your nurse will clean your skin with betadine *antiseptic* (numbing) to reduce the risk of infection.
- Your nurse will then apply an anesthetic jelly to the inside of your urethra. This will numb the area. You do not need to have any injections (shots).
- Your doctor will then insert the cystoscope through your urethra and into your bladder.
- The entire exam usually takes less than 10 minutes.



***The McMurray Building at Northwest Hospital***

## How do I prepare?

You do not need to do anything special to prepare for this procedure. You may eat and take your medicines as usual.

## After your cystoscopy

- The cystoscope can irritate your urethra. For 24 to 48 hours after your cystoscopy, you may:
  - Feel burning when you urinate
  - Have some blood in your urine
- Most people can resume their normal activities right away. Please ask your doctor if you have any questions.

## Risks

There is a small risk of an infection after a cystoscopy. Be sure to drink 4 to 6 glasses of water each day for 2 to 3 days after your cystoscopy to help avoid infection.

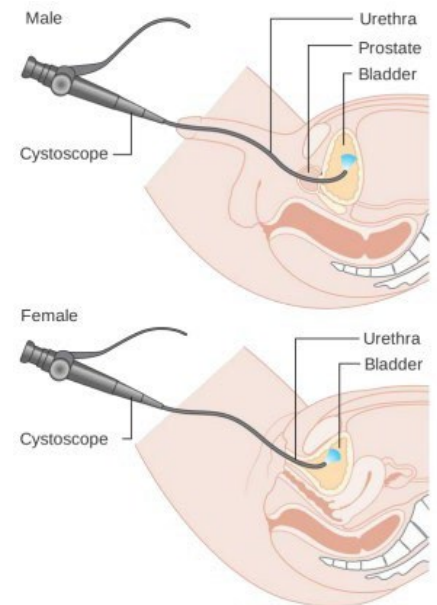
After 48 hours, call your doctor if you have:

- New symptoms of burning when you urinate
- A need to urinate more often
- Blood in your urine
- Chills or fever
- Pain

## Costs and insurance

A cystoscopy can be expensive. Please check with your health insurance company before your procedure to get a cost estimate based on your deductible, copay, and coinsurance.

Your insurance company may ask for the CPT code. The CPT code for this type of cystoscopy is 52000.



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## Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns.

- **General Urology Clinic:**  
206.668.5215
- **Pelvic Health Center:**  
206.668.4477
- **Kidney Stone Center:**  
206.668.5215