

Paediatric bladder scan and uroflow test

(Parent/Guardian Information sheet)

What is a paediatric bladder scan and uroflow test?

This is an investigation to get a clearer picture of what is going on with your child's bladder. It enables the doctor and nurse looking after your child to assess if the bladder is filling and emptying correctly and if your child has a normal urine stream.

Where does the procedure take place?

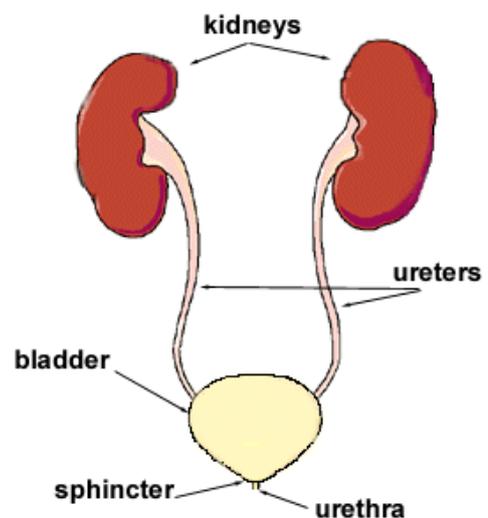
This procedure normally takes place on a Thursday morning or afternoon in the outpatient department of Cavan General Hospital located at the Breffni Building in Farnham Street Cavan and is performed by a specialist nurse or doctor.

What does the procedure involve?

Before arrival, the child will have drunk a reasonable amount of water to have a really full bladder on arrival. They will then be encouraged to pass urine in a special toilet which measures the flow of urine passed, then "uroflow". Before and after going to the special toilet, an ultrasound bladder scan is done to assess the amount of urine in the bladder before and after it is emptied. The scan uses gel on the lower part of the abdomen.

Sometimes the process may have to be repeated on the day if the first attempt wasn't successful to enable the members of the team to interpret the result and to recommend the correct treatment for your child.

The test will not hurt the child and will be done by an experienced nurse specialist or doctor in a child friendly environment and the parent will be with them all the time.



Contact details of Paediatric Team

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What is a bladder scan and uroflow test?

(Just for kids)

What is a bladder scan and Uroflow?

They both tests are short and pain-free. It allows us doctors and nurses to see how well your bladder is working. You first lie on a couch on your back for us to examine your tummy with a hand held device (transducer probe) that uses gel, to try to find your bladder, like in the picture here:

After the scan you pee in a special toilet. The nurses will measure the flow of the wee in the room next door. When you are finished peeing, we scan the bladder again to see if it is all empty.

How long does it take?

The whole test takes as little as 15 minutes if the bladder is nice and full when we start. If it isn't full or we need to repeat it, you need to drink more and wait to go again. It might take up to 2-3 hours to wait until it fills up to make sure we have all the right information for doctor.

Will it hurt?

No, this test does not hurt at all, although the magic gel the nurse or doctor uses may be a little cold on your tummy.

What do I have to do?

You will be asked to drink some water if the bladder isn't full enough and then whenever you feel you need to go to the toilet really, really, badly, we quickly do the scan and then you use our special toilet. This can be done in private or if you would like mum or dad to stay with you, they can. Don't worry it doesn't hurt. The toilet is magic and is able to tell us how good the flow of your urine is. When you are finished on the toilet, the nurse will put some gel on your tummy again and she will look to see if there is any urine left in your bladder. You may need to drink more water and use the toilet a few times so the nurse has the best information to give to the doctor we hope you don't mind.

