

Uroflow Tests

This handout explains uroflow tests with or without EMG, bladder scans, how we do these tests, and how to prepare your child.

What is a uroflow test?

A uroflow test helps your provider learn more about how long it takes your child to pee, the type of urine stream they have and how well they can empty their bladder.

How is the test done?

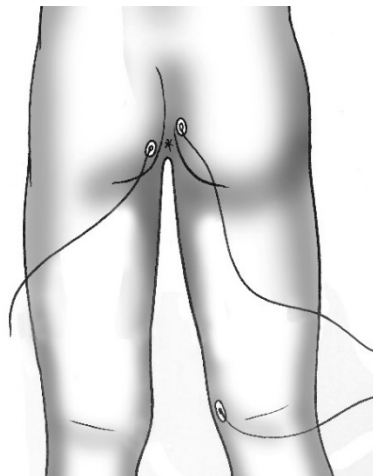
- During the test, your child will pee into a special toilet that is connected to a computer.
 - Your child can sit or stand, whatever is more comfortable.
 - The uroflow test may take up to 15 minutes.
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What is an EMG uroflow test?

An EMG (electromyogram) is a test that uses special stickers to measure how your child's muscles work when they pee (urinate). An EMG uroflow test is when we do an EMG and a uroflow at the same time.

How is the test done?

- Before the test, we will put 2 stickers on each butt cheek, near the anus (the hole where poop comes out). A 3rd sticker will go on your child's knee.
- You or another caregiver may put on the stickers if that is easier for your child.
- During the test, the stickers measure the muscle tension when your child pees.



Placement of the 3 stickers for EMG uroflow test

To Learn More

- Urology
206-987-2509
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org/patient-education

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.



What is a bladder scan?

A bladder scan measures the amount of urine in your child's bladder after they pee (urinate). If needed, we do this scan after a uroflow test.

How is the bladder scan done?

- We put gel on the skin of your child's lower belly (lower abdomen/pelvic area).
 - We will then move a small wand (transducer) over the gel.
 - The transducer will scan over the bladder to measure how much pee (urine) is in the bladder.
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How do I prepare my child for the uroflow?

- Talk to your child about the test, so they know what to expect.
 - Encourage your child to drink plenty of water for 1 hour before the test.
 - Please have your child arrive to clinic with a comfortably full bladder. Ideally, they would not pee within 1 hour before the test.
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