

Paediatric Flow Clinic

A leaflet for parents and carers.

Paediatric Flow Test Information

What is a paediatric flow test and post void (wee) bladder scan?

This is a very straightforward investigation that enables the team to get a clear picture of what is going on with your child's bladder.

It enables the doctor and the nurses looking after your child to understand in a lot more detail how the bladder is working, whether or not the bladder is filling and emptying correctly and whether your child has a normal urinary stream.

What does the procedure involve?

Your child will be asked to attend an appointment in D11, Adult Urology Outpatients. Prior to this, with your help they will be asked to fill out a bladder diary for three days before the appointment. Doing this as accurately as possible enables the nurse to get the best picture of what is the current situation at home.

We will ask that they try and arrive with a full bladder as this will cut down the amount of time you need to spend in the department. When your child is ready to pass urine they will be shown our flow machine (this is a special toilet that can measure how much urine is being passed and the flow pattern) and asked to pass urine into it. Once they have passed urine we will take them to the scanning room on the unit and perform a bladder scan to see how much, if any, urine is left behind in their bladder.

The bladder scan involves putting some jelly on the lower stomach and using a hand held ultrasound probe on the tummy to see a picture of the bladder and measure the volume of urine in there. If they have previously had an ultrasound scan you can reassure them that this scan only takes about one minute. You can accompany them at all times.

Sometimes it is necessary to perform the flow and ultrasound twice to ensure the most accurate readings.

The results will be discussed with you on the day and also available for the urology doctors to look at prior to your next appointment.

The Flow Machine



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