URODYNAMICS TESTING CLINIC

Urodynamics refers to a series of diagnostic tests that evaluate the function of your child’s bladder and urethra. Urodynamics tests provide valuable information to aid in the accurate diagnosis of your child’s urinary problems. Your physician will decide which of the following tests are appropriate for your child. These tests are performed by our registered nurses.

Uroflowmetry studies measure your child’s urinary flow rate. Your child should come to the test feeling as though he or she needs to urinate. Your child should arrive for the study with a comfortably full bladder. Your child will be asked to urinate into a special commode that allows a computer to measure urine flow rate and voided volume.

See flow rate test on AboutKidsHealth.ca

An EMG study measures how well your child can control sphincter (outlet) muscles and helps determine if they are working in coordination with the bladder. “Sticky patches” (electrodes) will be placed near the rectum to record sphincter muscle activity.

A Video-Urodynamics study allows the physician to see the shape and position of your child’s bladder as it fills and empties. This is done at the same time as the tests described below. A special fluid will be used to fill your child’s bladder and x-ray images will be taken.

See Urodynamics procedure on AboutKidsHealth.ca

A Cystometrogram study measures your child’s bladder’s capacity, evaluates how bladder holds urine and determines how well you child can control his/her bladder muscle. One very small catheter will be placed in the bladder and another catheter will be placed in the rectum. These catheters will measure both the pressure inside the bladder and the pressure body exerts on the bladder. Your child will be asked to report the sensations he/she feels as the bladder is filled (such as when you first feel the need to urinate and when that feeling intensifies). Your child may be asked to cough, bear down or stand during the test to check for leakage of urine.
At the end of the study, your child will be asked to urinate if he or she is able to urinate. See Urodynamics procedure on AboutKidsHealth.ca.

**Contact information:**

If you are calling to inquire about your child’s referral from your family doctor or preliminary consultation clinic appointment, please dial: 416-813-6661

Press #1 – General Info
Press #2 – Referral Info
Press #3 – Dr. Lorenzo or Dr. Bägli
Press #4 – Dr. Farhat or Dr. Koyle
Press #5 – Fellows’ clinic or Nurse practitioner clinic

If you are calling to inquire about your child’s surgery please, contact the surgeon’s Urology Administrative staff directly.

**Staff contacts for Dr. Darius Bägli and Dr. Armando Lorenzo**

Davika Ram - Surgical Bookings, Clinical Assistant  
Phone: 416-813-6465  
davika.ram@sickkids.ca

Jessica Rosales - Administrative Assistant, Observership/Residents  
Phone: 416-813-6899  
jessica.rosales@sickkids.ca

**Staff contacts for Dr. Walid Farhat and Dr. Martin Koyle**

Lisa Abreu - Fellowship Coordinator, Administrative Coordinator  
Phone: 416-813-6580  
lisa.abreu@sickkids.ca

Britney Dwyer - Surgical Bookings, Clinical Assistant  
Phone: 416-813-6465  
Fax: 416-813-6461  
britney.dwyer@sickkids.ca
If you cannot come to your scheduled clinic appointment or have a question about your appointment, please call the clinic clerk at 416-813-6661. We will try our best to schedule another appointment as soon as possible, based on availability at that time. You may need to leave a message due to the high volumes of calls received. If you leave a message, you can expect to hear back from us within 24 hours.

**Registration location:**

If this is your child’s first visit to Sick Kids than register for your appointment at Clinic Registration near the Atrium entrance on Elizabeth Street. Then go to the Urodynamics clinic on 5D (Atrium elevators), where the test is done. Arrive early so you have enough time to register.

If this is your child’s return visit to SickKids, then register in the Urology clinic on the 5D unit.

**Clinic location:**

The Urology Clinic is located at 555 University Avenue, the Atrium, 5th Floor, unit D. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can use the Atrium elevators (near the cafeteria) and exit at the 5th floor and look for the unit D.

**What families should bring to the appointment:**

Please be on time. Allow lots of time to get to the hospital. It can take some time to get used to finding your way around and it is important to be on time for your child’s appointment. Staff will try to see your child as close to your appointment time as possible. Please understand that some patients being seen ahead of you may need more time than expected, and this can cause delay for others.

**Bring the following:**

- your child’s Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) card
- your appointment card or letter
- any medical information, such as referral letters, X-rays, renal ultrasounds, MRI or CT scans (on a CD or films), urine and/or blood reports
- all medications or an accurate list of all medications (please include alternative and complimentary treatments)
Sometimes there is a wait. Remember to bring toys, books, nut-free snacks, diapers and formula to keep your child comfortable and occupied.

**Interpreter Services:**

If you need an interpreter, please speak with your child’s nurse or doctor as soon as possible so they can call Interpreter Services to arrange for an interpreter. Please give us at least 24 to 48 hours notice to make it easier for us to find an interpreter for you.

**Getting to SickKids:**

If you need directions please call the hospital at 416-813-8600 or visit our website. There is also information about parking at the hospital.

Direct phone lines to a taxi company are available at the Elizabeth Street and University Avenue entrances.

Some bus and train companies offer companion fares for family members accompanying children to medical appointments.

For more information please visit link: [Coming for a clinic appointment page](#).

**What families should expect during their clinic visit:**

When you arrive to 5D unit your child needs to be register at the front desk. A SickKids identification (ID) band will be placed on your child. The band must be worn on your child’s arm or ankle at all times. Check your child’s ID band to make sure the information is right. If your child is not wearing a band or has the wrong one, it can lead to errors that can result in the wrong care for your child. Staff must always check the band before providing care to your child. You will wait for you appointment in the waiting area.

Prior to your Urodynamics test your child may be asked to complete a bladder diary or questionnaire, please bring this with you to the appointment. Unless otherwise directed by your child’s doctor, your child should take his/her normally scheduled medications. Your child may eat and drink prior to the tests. These tests typically take 10-60 minutes. Staff will try to see your child as close to your appointment time as possible. Your child will be able to resume all previous activities upon completion of the Urodynamics tests.

Your child will need a full bladder for the flow rate test. Remember that it takes 20 to 30 minutes for liquid to get down to the bladder. If your child does not normally drink a lot of
water, or if your child has been ill, your child may be slightly dehydrated. If your child is dehydrated, it will take more water to fill the bladder.
You can bring his or her favorite drinks from home or buy a drink from the hospital cafeteria. Every child has a different bladder capacity. We want to do this test when your child feels a strong urge to urinate. A strong urge to urinate shows that your child's bladder is full. If your child is not ready for the test when you arrive at the clinic, encourage your child to drink water. When your child feels a strong urge to urinate, please tell the clerical staff at the front desk.
Once your child's bladder is full, the test will take about 5-10 minutes. Your child will have a bladder scan and will be asked to urinate into the flow rate toilet. Then your child will have a second bladder scan to see if any urine is left in the bladder.

The full urodynamic study is also performed in our clinic and requires an empty bladder prior to the study. The registered nurse will contact you before coming for this appointment and explain this test in details. You can also find more information on our website.

The video urodynamic study is performed in the Department of Diagnostic Imaging department on the 2nd floor. If you are unsure about the location of the department, ask at the main reception. This study also requires an empty bladder prior to the study. The registered nurse will contact you before coming for this appointment and explain this test in details.

At the end of this study, a doctor or nurse practitioner in the Urology Clinic will review the test results. If your family physician or pediatrician has sent your child for this test, the results will be forwarded to them.

If any referrals or follow-up appointments are needed, the clinic coordinator/clerk will be available to assist you with scheduling an appointment. At the end of the appointment, you will be given an appointment card or your appointment will be mailed to you depending on booking availabilities.