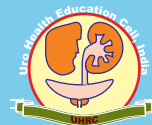
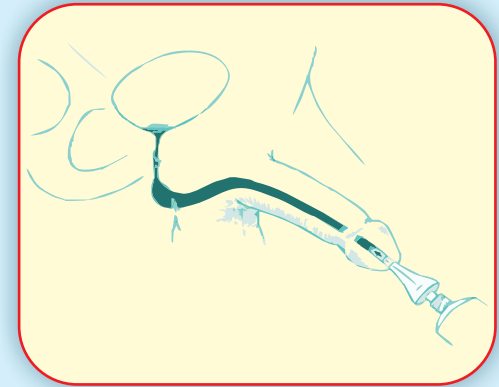


A sample radiographic picture that you will get after RGU



RETROGRADE URETHROGRAM (RGU)

All that you need to know



UroHealth Education Cell

A cell dedicated to disseminating scientifically validated knowledge to patients and medical colleagues for improving standards of UroHealth Care

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What is this test and why do it?

- ◆ It is a kind of specialized X ray wherein the changes in luminal characteristics of urethra are learnt by instilling radio opaque contrast in its lumen and then taking an X-ray picture.
- ◆ The Urethra is a thin tube like passage inside penis which is meant for flow of urine and semen.
- ◆ Generally, this investigation is done to know more about the diseases of urethra, eg. injury and narrowing of its lumen (stricture).

What will be done in this test?

- ◆ You urine be required to give a written consent for the procedure.
- ◆ You will be asked to bare your genitalia and lie on X-Ray table. Please cooperate with the X-Ray technician who will tell you how to lie on the machine.
- ◆ Your genitals will be cleaned with a suitable antiseptic solution like Betadine.
- ◆ A thin tube or nozzle of a syringe will be gently inserted into your urinary passage and through this tube 10-15 ml of contrast will be instilled.
- ◆ The contrast instiller in urinary passage does not enter your vascular system, hence there is no need for a prior and routine allergy testing, unless you suffer from hyper-allergic disordered or have known hypersensitivity.
- ◆ The injected contrast solution is opaque to the X-Rays and this serves to out line the structural changes in urethra.
- ◆ You may feel little bursting pain and burning sensation inside the penis at the time of contrast instillation. This is momentary and it will automatically resolve. Do not panic.
- ◆ Once the urethra is fully distended, the technician will shoot a X-ray picture. He may take one-two more pictures by changing position of penis and once he is satisfied will quality of X-ray, the contrast filled in urethra is allowed to come out.

What precautions should be taken before the procedure?

Cleanliness of genitals is necessary for this procedure for which you have to take these measures:

- ◆ Shave hairs near and around genital organs.
- ◆ Clean properly the undersurface of foreskin of the penis by pulling the skin

backwards.

- ◆ Just before the test, wash the genitals properly with soap and dry it with clean towel or tissue paper.
- ◆ You will be required to take a suitable tablet of antibiotic, preferably 3-4 hours prior to the test. If you are already taking any antibiotics, there is no need for this. Mostly, we recommend an additional injection of *Amikacin* 500mg by Intravenous / intramuscular route just prior to this X-Ray. If necessary, consult your physician in this regard.
- ◆ If you have any allergy with any drug, inform the doctor or technician. Do not be overconcerned. The doctor will take care of it by giving you the vital advice.
- ◆ If you are experiencing severe buming sensation or painful urination or pus discharge or bleeding from urethra, it is advisable to defer this test till you are seasonably treated by appropriate medication.

What may happen after the procedure?

- ◆ A little **bleeding** may occur from the urinary passage. This will stop itself by taking plenty of water and prescribed drugs within 4 to 6 hours.
- ◆ Every time you pass urine, you may experience some burning sensation in urinary passage. This gets better after you have passed urine 3-4 times. Take plenty of liquid to enhance your urine formation.
- ◆ You may experience some pain in penis, particularly at its tip. This is mostly mild, short lasting and self limiting. If you are uncomfortable, take some suitable analgesic tablets after consulting your doctor.

When you must consult your doctor?

- ◆ If you continue to pass drops of *fresh blood from urethra*.
- ◆ If you start developing *fever with chills or shivering*.
- ◆ If you are *unable to pass urine* yourself and experience lower abdominal pain.
- ◆ If you notice any swelling on penis, particularly on its undersurface.