

What is Post Void Residual test?

Post Residual Void (PVR) is the amount of urine left in your bladder after using the restroom. There are two ways to measure PVR.

Ultrasound Post Void Residual

This test is performed to measure the amount of urine that is left in your bladder after you have made attempt to empty it completely.

The test is done with ultrasound. After using the bathroom you will lie flat on the exam table with the surface of your lower abdomen and pelvis exposed. The technician will place gel on the skin over your bladder. The technician will place an ultrasound probe over this area, and make a recording. Your health care provider will review the image and measurement with you.

There is no special preparation for this test and you may resume your usual daily activities immediately following the ultrasound.

Straight CathPost Void Residual

With this test the retained urine in your bladder will be removed and measured after you attempt to empty the bladder completely.

The test is done with a thin, flexible tube (catheter). After going to the bathroom you will lie flat on the exam table. Your provider will wipe clean the entrance to your urethra with Betadine swabs. Then she will insert the catheter

into the bladder through the urethra about 2 inches. The volume of any urine remaining in the bladder (the post void residual or PVR) will be drained and measured. You may feel a slight burning sensation when the catheter is inserted.

There is no special preparation for this study and you may resume your usual daily activities immediately following the test.

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