

What is an Ultrasound Postvoid Residual?

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

How is this test done?

This study is done with ultrasound. You will be asked to lie flat on the exam table. The surface of your lower abdomen will need to be exposed. A towel will be placed along the waistband of your clothing to protect it from the gel that is placed on your skin over the bladder. An ultrasound probe will be placed over your bladder, and a recording will be made which will show how much urine is in your bladder. Your doctor will review the findings with you when you are here.

How do you prepare for this test?

You should eat and drink as you normally do. You must have a full bladder when you arrive at the clinic and you will not empty it until you are instructed to do so. Otherwise there is no special preparation for this test.

What should I expect after the test?

You will have no side effects as a result of this study. You may resume your usual daily activities immediately following the ultrasound.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact the University of Michigan, Department of Urology at 734-936-7030 during working hours (8:00 am – 5:00 pm). If there are any concerns that need to be addressed after business hours or on weekends, please call 734-936-6267 and ask to speak with the Urology Resident on Call. If you need to be evaluated by a physician on an emergent basis, please go to the nearest ER and have the ER physician contact the University of Michigan urology resident on call for assistance.

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Talk with your doctor if you have Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options.

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