

About Your Cystoscopy

Your urogynecologist has asked you to schedule a test called cystoscopy. This test entails inserting a small scope into the urethra (the tube the urine comes out of) in order to be able to visualize the structure of the urethra as well as the bladder. You will first be asked to void (empty out the bladder), and then will be catheterized to drain any residual urine in your bladder. The scope will then be inserted into the urethra after a small amount of local anesthetic jelly is placed into the urethra. Usually, the scope will be attached to a video camera so you can visualize the inside of your bladder while your urogynecologist is examining it. The test usually takes approximately 10 minutes. Following the test, you will be given an antibiotic to prevent bladder infection. You will have some burning with urination for a few hours after the test. This should resolve on its own.

Why is there a need to undergo Cystoscopy?

Cystoscopy allows your urogynecologist to examine the inside of your bladder. It is very important to evaluate the structure of the urethra if you have stress incontinence or urethral irritation or pain. It is important to examine the bladder if you have urge incontinence, bladder pain, blood in your urine, or other abnormalities which require examination of the inside of the bladder. Cystoscopy is the only reliable test for identification of bladder stones, tumors, and other abnormalities within the bladder such as a stitch from a previous surgery, a fistula, or other abnormalities which may be responsible for your symptoms.

NOTES:

This information is for educational purposes only and should not be relied upon as medical advice. It has not been designed to replace a physician's independent judgment about the appropriateness or risks of a procedure for a given patient.