

Urodynamics

“Urodynamics” is a series of tests that help us to identify the cause of bladder problems (leakage, urgency etc.). With urodynamics studies we can distinguish between stress urinary incontinence (leak with cough or sneeze), urge urinary incontinence (can’t quite make it to the bathroom), overflow incontinence (constant leak) and neurogenic incontinence (total loss of control).

The first test is the “uroflow” where we analyze the volume and speed of urination. Next we perform a “cystoscopy” where we look inside the urethra and bladder to see if there are any abnormalities in their structure. We then slowly fill the bladder with carbon dioxide gas and ask you to inform us of when you feel a need to go to the washroom and when you feel that your bladder capacity has been met. During this process we will ask you to cough and this will allow us to see whether the bladder neck support is adequate to prevent leakage with increased abdominal pressure.

These studies are very important since a bladder repair done in the wrong setting could worsen your urinary symptoms. Moreover, more than 16% of bladder problems are correctable with the use of bladder training and medications.