



Welcome to the Urodynamics Unit

This information sheet from Great Ormond Street Hospital explains about the work of the Urodynamics Unit and what to expect when your child comes to visit us.

About the Urodynamics Unit

The Urodynamics Unit is a busy day case unit at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH). Children visit us for day case investigations, that is, they only come for the day and return home afterwards. We see children and young people of all ages with conditions affecting the bladder and bowel.

We carry out a variety of investigations to assess how well your child's bladder is working. Most tests are carried out in the unit, but some children may also need to visit the X-ray department on level 2 (ground floor) of the hospital. Most visits last from two to four hours, so please allow this long when planning your travel or parking.

The unit is open from Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. We are located on level 7 of the Southwood Building.

Meet the team

We are a small, friendly multidisciplinary team of nurses, doctors, healthcare assistants and administrative staff. We work closely with the psychosocial team at GOSH as well. We all aim to work together in partnership with you and your child making decisions about care and treatment.

Facilities for children, young people and families

There is a playroom within the unit, equipped with toys, books, games and arts and crafts.

We have a selection of juices and water available to drink during your visit. If your child has any specific likes or dislikes, please bring along your own drinks. Unfortunately, we do not allow hot drinks due to the risk of spillage. We do not provide food but there are plenty of places to buy food within the hospital or in the local area.

There are toilets within the unit, but these are only to be used by children and young people having tests and investigations. Other family members and visitors should use the toilets on level 2 (ground floor) of the hospital.

There are lots to do in the local area, which you could combine with a visit to the Urodynamics Unit. Please ask us for a copy of our *Around GOSH* or *What to do in between appointments* booklets.

What to bring

- If your child is still in nappies or pads, please bring a supply with you to cover the day plus a few extra.
- Please bring a spare set of underwear and/or clothes if your child requires regular changes.
- We send some families a frequency volume chart to complete before the appointment. If we have sent you one, please bring it with you.

What happens during a visit?

When you arrive at the unit, you should book in with our Ward Clerk. They will then notify the nurses who will collect you from the playroom.

On your child's first visit, we will usually carry out a bladder function assessment. The nurse will take your child's medical history and go through the frequency volume chart with you. When your child needs to pee, we will take them to a special toilet to measure their urine output. This is followed by an ultrasound of the bladder to check that it is completely empty. This process will be repeated two to three times during the appointment to give as full a picture as possible of your child's bladder function. We will discuss our initial findings with you on the day followed by a written report sent to your child's doctor.

More complex tests may need to be discussed by the team before the results and any recommendations are given to you.

Useful numbers

GOSH switchboard

020 7405 9200

Urodynamics Unit

Ward Clerk – 020 7829 8884

Nurses' Office – Ext 5916 or 5917 through switchboard

Database Coordinator – 020 7813 7863

Please note that an answerphone is available out of hours or during busy periods.

Squirrel Ward

020 7829 8814