



To schedule your appointment —  
or if you must cancel —  
please call **610-988-8611**

**If you have any questions  
about IVPs, please ask.**

Park in the 6th Avenue Garage, and use the main Hospital entrance. Once inside, walk straight ahead to the Tower Elevator, and take it down one floor to 1. The registration desk for the Radiology Department will be directly in front of you as you exit the elevator.

## DIRECTIONS

### To The Reading Hospital

The Reading Hospital and Medical Center is located at Sixth Avenue and Spruce Street in West Reading. The main entrance — the one beneath our landmark tower — is C-Building.



**The Reading Hospital  
and Medical Center**

PO Box 16052  
Reading, PA 19612-6052



*You are scheduled for an  
IVP*

*date:                      time:*

*history/diagnosis:*

*ICD9:*

*physician:*

*at: The Reading Hospital  
Radiology Department*

***Please bring this brochure  
to your appointment!***



**The Reading Hospital  
and Medical Center**

**y**our physician has scheduled you for a special diagnostic study — an intravenous pyelogram or IVP.

This brochure explains the procedure, so you will know what to expect the day of your examination.

## ABOUT IVPs

An IVP is a special x-ray study to examine your urinary system. By using an iodine-based contrast, your doctor will be able to visualize the anatomy and functioning of your kidneys, bladder, and ureters.

**A note to inpatients:** If you are having this procedure done on an inpatient basis, your nurse will guide you through all preparations, and will arrange for your transportation to and from the Radiology Department.

## PREPARATIONS

- **A few days before your examination:** purchase a Dulcolax Bowel Prep Kit, or three Dulcolax tablets and a suppository. These can be purchased at any pharmacy — no prescription is needed.
- **Day before your examination:** Nothing to eat after 12 noon on the day before your study. You may drink clear liquids only; no milk products.  
At 8 p.m. the night before your study, take three Dulcolax tablets by mouth. Swallow them whole; do **not** crush or chew the tablets. Also, do **not** take them within one hour of taking antacids or milk.

You may continue to have clear liquids. But remember, no milk products and no food!

- **Day of your examination:** No breakfast! No milk products! You may have clear liquids.  
Two hours before your appointment, insert one Dulcolax suppository rectally.  
You may continue to enjoy clear liquids until your appointment time.  
Please **allow 45 minutes** for your IVP.  
Please bring this brochure to your appointment. Also bring your health benefits ID card and any pre-approval or referral forms.

## PROCEDURE

When you arrive in the Radiology Department, a technologist will escort you to a dressing room. You will be asked to change into the exam gown provided.

When you are ready, the technologist will show you to the examination room, and help you onto the x-ray table. Once you are positioned, the technologist will take a preliminary x-ray. There will be a short wait at this point while the technologist shows the x-ray to a Radiologist.

After the Radiologist reviews the preliminary x-ray, you will be injected with an iodine-based contrast. This solution is usually injected into a vein in your hand or arm. If you have ever had a reaction to iodine-based drugs, be sure to tell the technologist or your doctor prior to the examination.

**Note to Diabetic Patients:** if you receive an intravenous injection of contrast during the IVP and you take Metformin (Glucophage® or Glucovance®) therapy, please:

- stop taking the Metformin (Glucophage® or Glucovance®) for 48 hours after the IVP
- and talk with your primary care physician before you begin taking it again.

While you are lying on your back, the technologist will take a series of x-rays over a 25-minute interval. Toward the end of the procedure, you may be asked to empty your bladder so that a post-urination x-ray can be taken.

## FOLLOW-UP

The results of your IVP will be interpreted by a Radiologist, who will then report the results to your physician. Your physician will discuss the results of the study with you at your next appointment.

