

Procedure information

Trial of Void (TOV)

What is a trial of void?

A trial of void is a two-step process. Removing the catheter and then making sure you can pass urine.

Why is a trial of void required?

After the removal of the catheter, we need to ensure that your bladder is emptying appropriately.

What does a trial of void involve?

Removing the catheter is a simple process. A balloon, which is filled with water, is used to hold the catheter in place. Once the balloon is deflated, the catheter is gently removed by slowly withdrawing it. Removal of the catheter only takes a few seconds, with minimal discomfort.

The trial of void however can take up to six hours. This process assesses how well your bladder empties after the catheter is removed.

We encourage you to drink fluids. Once you have passed urine, we perform a bladder scan (ultrasound) to measure the amount of urine left inside your bladder.

This process is repeated several times until we can determine that you can successfully pass urine to empty your bladder.

What is the recovery after a trial of void?

On completion of the trial of void you can go home.

You may experience some discomfort when you pass urine for a few days.

You may notice blood in your urine for a few days. Ensure you maintain a good water intake.

You may notice the need to urinate frequently and pass urine urgently. This may continue for a day or two.

What happens if I am unable to pass urine?

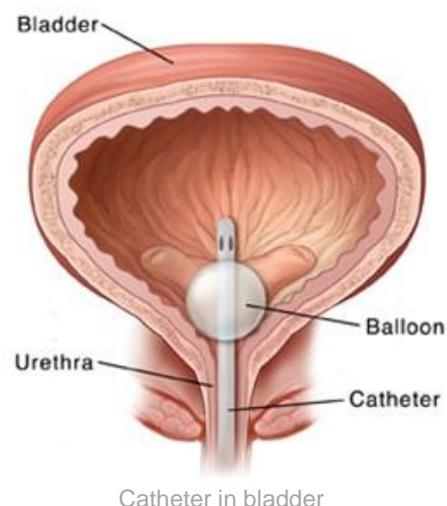
If you are unable to pass urine or empty your bladder sufficiently, your doctor will discuss with you the options:

- A catheter may need to be reinserted.
- You may need to learn how to do self-catheterisation.
- You may require surgery.

When to seek attention

It is not normal to have any of the following after the removal of your catheter:

- Fevers, sweats or chills.
- Difficulty or inability to pass urine.
- Passing large blood clots in the urine.
- Severe abdominal pain.



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If you experience any of these symptoms, please phone Brisbane Urology Clinic, see your GP, or present to your nearest emergency department.

This is general information only. Please consult your doctor for more information and treatment options.

For appointments and enquiries please contact 07 3830 3300.

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