



1818 N Orange Grove Ave, Suite 101, Pomona, CA 91711 • 909.236.3333 • FHUrology.com

Ureteral Stent Removal

Pre-Procedure Instructions for Patients

ABOUT YOUR PROCEDURE

A ureteral stent is a soft hollow tube that was placed to keep urine draining from your kidney to your bladder. Now that it has done its job, it needs to come out. Stents are not meant to stay in indefinitely — leaving one in too long can lead to encrustation, stone formation, blockage, and infection.

Removal is done in the office using a thin flexible telescope passed through the urethra. The stent is grasped and pulled out. The whole visit takes about 15 minutes; the removal itself takes under a minute.

IF YOUR STENT HAS A STRING

Some stents are left with a string exiting the urethra. If yours has a string, removal may be as simple as steady traction on the string, with no telescope needed. **Do not pull the string yourself unless your urologist specifically instructed you to.**

MEDICATIONS

- **Blood thinners:** You can usually stay on them for a stent removal. Do not stop them unless your urologist tells you to.
- **Antibiotic:** If prescribed, take it as directed.
- Continue all other regular medications.
- Take a dose of ibuprofen or your usual pain reliever about an hour before your appointment unless told not to — this reduces the cramping some people feel afterward.

THE DAY OF YOUR PROCEDURE

- Eat and drink normally.
- Wear comfortable, easily removed clothing.
- Bring your medication list, insurance information, and photo ID.
- You will be asked to empty your bladder when you arrive.
- You do not need a driver and can return to work afterward.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Numbing jelly is placed into the urethra and allowed to take effect. The scope is passed into the bladder, the end of the stent is grasped, and the stent is withdrawn. As it comes out you will feel a brief pulling or cramping sensation in your side or lower abdomen that passes within seconds. Most people find removal much easier than they expected.

WHEN TO CALL THE OFFICE

Call 909.236.3333 before your appointment if you have fever, chills, burning with urination, or flank pain. Also call if your removal appointment has been delayed — **stents should not be left in longer than your urologist planned.**