

Direct Vision Internal Urethrotomy (DVIU)

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Open on
phone

WHAT IS THIS PROCEDURE?

A **urethral stricture** is a band of scar that narrows the urethra, making it hard to pass urine.

DVIU: a scope with a small cold knife (urethrotome) goes into the urethra. Looking through the scope, the surgeon cuts the scar to open the narrow segment. No skin cuts are needed.

Afterward: a catheter is often left in for a short time while the urethra heals.

KEY POINTS

- **Cold knife:** open the optical urethrotome and the Storz cold knife (27068K). Sensor wire on the field.
- **Saline, no pressure bag.** Switch to water only if cautery is used.
- **B&O suppository** after the prep.
- **C-arm with foot pedal for retrograde urethrogram (RUG).** Call the X-ray tech before the patient is in the room so the C-arm is ready when the case starts.
- Have the **18 Fr Council-tip catheter, 10 mL balloon** available for the end of the case. It goes in **over the Sensor wire**, so keep the wire on the field until the catheter is in.

SUPPLIES

Open

- Cysto set and optical urethrotome
- Storz camera, GloShield, cysto pack
- Cold knife, Storz 27068K
- Sensor wire
- Lubricating jelly on a towel
- Saline 3000 mL bag
- C-arm drape
- Contrast: Omnipaque 300 mgI/mL, 30 mL, diluted 50/50, with a 30 mL syringe for the RUG
- Leg bag
- Surgical jumpsuit (plastic overalls)

Available in room, open only if asked

- 18 Fr Council-tip catheter, 10 mL balloon
- Van Buren sounds, full set
- Open-end ureteral catheter, 6 Fr
- TUR resectoscope set
- Sterile water (if switching for cautery)

GLOVES

- 7.5 white. Single glove; no blue.
- Surgical jumpsuit (plastic overalls).

ANESTHESIA

- General anesthesia.
- B&O suppository after the prep.
- Perioperative antibiotics: cefazolin (Ancef) 2 g IV, unless contraindicated.

POSITIONING

- C-arm compatible bed.
- Dorsal lithotomy in Yellofin stirrups (Allen stirrups at Same Day Surgery).
- Left arm tucked.
- SCDs on.

PREP AND DRAPE

- Povidone-iodine (Betadine) scrub and paint: pubis, perineum, upper third of thighs, and genitals.
- After the prep, dry the perineum and place the lithotomy drape.
- **Do not place towels under the drape.** Towels let the drape slip and fall, which contaminates the field.
- Please continue draping after the prep; no need to wait for the surgeon.

IRRIGATION

- **Saline, 3000 mL bag. No pressure bag.**
- If cautery is used, switch to water.
- Water in a metal basin on the field (also used to fill the catheter balloon).

WHY SALINE, AND WATER ONLY WITH CAUTERY?

No electricity, so saline is fine: the cold knife cuts without current, so saline is used. Saline is also safer if some is absorbed.

If cautery comes out: monopolar current spreads out in saline and will not work, so the irrigation is switched to water.

No pressure: pressure pushes fluid into the freshly cut urethra and surrounding tissue. Gravity flow is enough to see.

CAUTERY AND LASER

- Usually none: cold knife.
- Cautery may be used if needed.
- Laser: only if requested.

AFTER THE CASE

- Patient goes home with the catheter: connect a **leg bag** to start.
- Send a **4 L night bag** home with the patient.