



Urological Associates, P.C.

of the Iowa and Illinois Quad-Cities Region

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Guide to Stent with String Placement

A stent with a string was placed in one of your ureters due to inflammation from a stone(s). Inflammation can lead to swelling. If the ureter swells closed, urine cannot get from the kidney to the bladder, which can cause problems. To help prevent this, your urologist placed a stent. Attached to the stent is a string which allows easy removal when it is safe to do so, usually within a few days after your procedure.

Things to know:

- Pain/Discomfort on the side with the stent or in lower abdomen is VERY common:
 - We recommend heat with a heating pad or bath/shower.
 - Pain medications – either prescription or over-the-counter, follow the directions.
 - Drink a lot of hydrating fluids/water. This helps flush out the irritants causing the inflammation.
- Blood/Blood Clots:
 - You may notice an increase in bleeding/clots after activity. Rest and drink hydrating fluids.
 - If the blood is frank (tomato soup like), call the office. Otherwise, keep drinking a lot of water/hydrating fluids.
 - With a clot(s), if you are able to void, keep drinking lots of water/hydrating fluids. If you cannot void, call the office or if after hours, go to the emergency department.
- Leaking of urine:
 - Intermittent leaking is typically from the stent irritating the bladder. It is usually best treated with medication.
 - Continuous leaking is typically caused by stent migration (moving).
 - If you are experiencing abnormal leaking, please call the office.
- Urgency and/or Frequency:
 - While the stent is in place, you may notice an increase in urinary urgency and/or frequency. This is normal.

- Within 24 to 48 hours after stent removal, you should return to your baseline urinary pattern.
- **Stent Migration:**
 - The stents are blue. If you can see any portion of a small blue tube, please call the office.
- **Black String:**
 - If you see a black string, do NOT pull on it. Do NOT cut it.
 - Typically, the string is secured to your body with a piece of clear tape prior to discharge.
 - Females: taped to the inner thigh.
 - Males: taped to the penis shaft.
- **After removal:**
 - Burning, stinging, and/or blood in urine can all occur after removal. Drink a lot of water/hydrating fluids. Your symptoms should improve over the course of the day and with fluid intake.
 - If you notice that a certain activity causes more bleeding, hold off on that activity for a day, drink lots of water, and slowly increase your activity level. Most people are back to unrestricted activity within 24 hours of stent removal.
 - Transient bleeding can occur for up to two weeks after stent removal. If you experience blood in your urine after two weeks, call the office.
 - If you are experiencing leaking of urine, this should improve as the stent is no longer causing irritation/keeping your bladder open.
 - Pain/discomfort in the lower abdomen and/or flank should improve. Use of heat, pain medications, and rest are helpful.
- **KEEP your follow-up appointment.**
 - If you don't know when/how you need to follow-up, call the office.

Please call the office with any questions or concerns!