

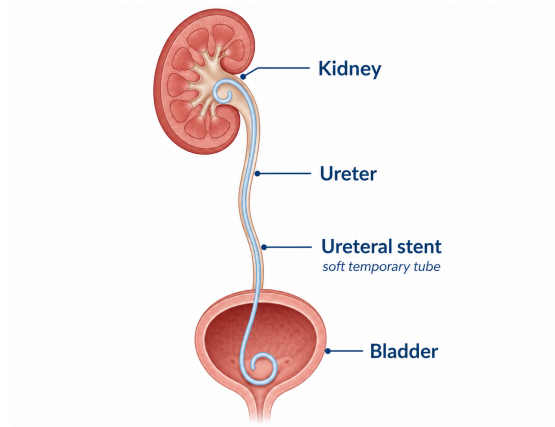
Urgent Ureteral Stent for a Kidney Stone

Drainage today - stone treatment later

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Questions or concerns? Message us on MyChart. MyChart is the best way to reach our team for non-urgent questions and photos. Call the clinic at 832.556.6046 for time-sensitive questions. For after-hours urgent concerns, follow the on-call instructions in your discharge paperwork.

In the ER or hospital, the safest first step may be to place a ureteral stent to drain the kidney. The stone is usually not removed during this urgent procedure. This is not ignoring the stone - it is treating the urgent blockage first so the full stone procedure can be done more safely later. A ureteral stent is a soft temporary tube from kidney to bladder.



Dr. _____ · Planned next step: _____

Why a stent first - and why not remove the stone today

Why a stent first?

A stone can block urine from draining out of the kidney. Drainage relieves pressure and protects kidney function.

If infection is present, drainage helps antibiotics work.

Drainage can stabilize pain, vomiting, kidney swelling, or inflammation.

Why not remove the stone today?

Urgent stent placement is a quick drainage procedure. Full stone treatment is a planned surgery that often needs a full stone setup, specialized laser/suction equipment, disposable supplies, and the right operating room team.

For large, dense, infected, or inflamed stones, planning the stone surgery is usually safer than trying to do everything overnight or on a weekend.

Typical plan

1) Place stent to drain the kidney. 2) Treat infection, pain, vomiting, or swelling. 3) Let the ureter and kidney calm down. 4) Schedule ureteroscopy/laser stone treatment later.

Important reminders

The stent does not remove the stone. Do not remove a stent unless your urology team tells you to.

The office may arrange a MyChart discussion, imaging review, or a follow-up visit to finalize surgery.

Know what to expect - and when to act

STENT SYMPTOMS ARE COMMON	CALL CLINIC / MYCHART	SEEK URGENT CARE / ER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgency or needing to urinate often • Burning with urination • Bladder pressure or spasms • Blood in the urine that comes and goes • Flank/kidney pain, especially during or right after urinating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stent symptoms that are hard to tolerate but you are stable and still urinating • Questions about your medicines, the stent, or scheduling the stone surgery • Symptoms that are worsening instead of improving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever of 100.4°F / 38°C or higher, or shaking chills • Severe pain not controlled with medicine • Persistent vomiting or cannot keep fluids down • Cannot urinate • Fainting, weakness, or feeling seriously ill

A stent can be uncomfortable, but it is doing an important job: keeping the kidney draining while we prepare for stone treatment. Symptoms usually improve after removal.