

Urology of Virginia Stone Pathway (with Stent)

- **Why was the stent placed?** - A ureteral stent (a thin hollow plastic tube) was placed during your hospitalization to bypass your stone and allow the kidney to drain, avoiding further pain or infection. This stent is temporary and must be removed. If it is not removed in the near future it can cause long-term damage to your body, so you must follow up with your urologist as scheduled.
- **Will I need another surgery?** YES, the stent is a temporary measure which drains the kidney around the stone. We were unable to remove the stone at the time of your procedure either because of concern for infection, or the lack of specialized equipment required for stone fragmentation which is not available in urgent situations. While there are several ways of treating stones, in your situation “Ureteroscopy” is generally the best choice. This involves passing a small camera through the urethra and up to the level of the stone, breaking up the stone with a specialized laser, and removing the stone fragments. This generally provides the best results after a stent has been placed urgently. This is done under general anesthesia, and is an outpatient procedure usually about one hour in length. You will be discharged home shortly after you wake up from surgery.
- **When will this happen?** The optimal time to perform the second procedure to retrieve the stone is about 14 days after your stent placement. This will allow time for you to recover, for the stent to relax the ureter, and for any infection to be treated. We know you are eager to get through this trying time and our goal is to treat you as soon as it is safe.
- **What should I expect?**
 - Our hospital team will forward your information to our Urology of Virginia office staff before your discharge.
 - You will be contacted within 48 hours of discharge by our surgery scheduling team. The goal will be to identify a time for your outpatient procedure, as well as a preoperative clinic appointment which may be needed in certain circumstances.
 - You will be paired with one of our surgeons specifically trained in ureteroscopic stone surgery. It may not be the physician that placed your stent, or that you met during hospitalization.
 - After the stone removal procedure, a stent will be left in place for a few days to facilitate healing. It is important to remember that this must be removed and can cause serious harm if it is left in place. You must follow-up based on your physician’s guidance after your procedure.
- **How can I contact you?** Urology of Virginia is located at 225 Clearfield Ave., Virginia Beach, VA, 23462. Our main number is 757-457-5100. Please allow 48 hours after discharge for our surgery scheduling staff to contact you. Once they do they’ll provide their extension for you to communicate directly with them as needed. Your surgery scheduler will be your primary point of contact and can also assist with work notes, FMLA paperwork, and will be a resource for providing you with any additional information that you need regarding your treatment pathway.