

You have a kidney stone, what will happen now?

If you have been diagnosed with a stone in your kidney or ureter (the tube draining urine from the kidney), your treatment will depend on the size of your stone.

If the stone is small, it will most likely pass out by itself. However, if it is large you may need surgery or another treatment to remove it. Generally, it is better if the stone passes on its own as this avoids the need for any surgery.

Treatments to help small stones pass

If you have a small stone, your doctor will advise you to drink a lot of water. As well, they may prescribe:

- pain relief
- medicine to help the muscles of your ureter relax so the stone can pass through.

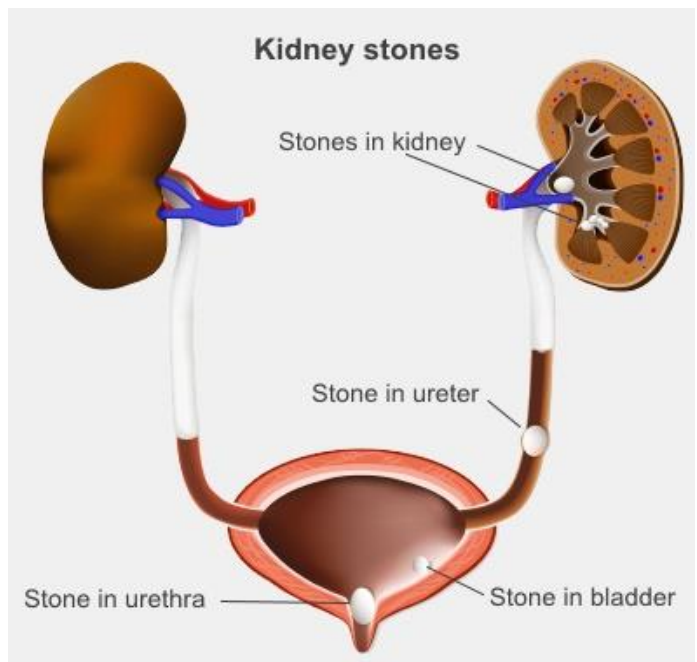
Treatment to remove larger stone

If your stones are larger, there are two ways they can be removed:

- shock waves are used to help break up the stones so you can pass them
- surgery to remove very large stones.

If the stone is larger, the doctor will refer you to the Urology Service at Grey Base Hospital. Based on the size of your stone, the Urology Service will organise your follow-up. If your own doctor has not seen you, then they will be sent a letter informing them of this.

If you get any severe pain that is not responding to the pain relief tablets or you have vomiting or a fever, return to your doctor, an after hours doctor, or the emergency department.



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