

Lithotripsy

What is Lithotripsy?

Lithotripsy is a medical procedure used to break down stones in the body. Stones can be found in the kidneys or gall bladder.

Types of Lithotripsies

Extracorporeal Lithotripsy

Intracorporeal Lithotripsy



Extracorporeal Lithotripsy (ESWL)

Procedure: External shock waves are directed at the stone to break it down.

Process: You will lie on a couch against two water-filled cushions during the procedure.

Intra-corporeal Lithotripsy

Procedure: A rigid or flexible scope is used to reach the stone, and energy is applied to break it down.

Types of Energy:

Laser

Electrohydraulic (used primarily for industrial purposes)

Mechanical

Ultrasonic

Post-Procedure Advice

Drink plenty of water

Continue to take painkillers if needed

Sometimes antibiotics may be required