



Study to Enhance Understanding of Stent-associated Symptoms (STENTS): Rationale and Study Design

How did the study work?

The study included teens and adults who had a stent placed after a surgery to remove kidney stones. Participants met with the study team before and after surgery were asked about how they felt before surgery and for about two weeks after the stent was placed.

They:



Completed questionnaires before and after the procedure



Took part in interviews about their experiences



Shared their medical history



Completed a test measuring how their body reacts to discomfort



Filled out daily symptom surveys



Provided blood and urine samples for future research

Why is this study design unique?

This is one of the largest, most detailed studies ever done on symptoms related to stents — and the first to include both adults and teens. By collecting a full picture of symptoms, samples, and participant stories and lived experiences, we can explore this topic from multiple angles.

How could this study help patients and care teams?

- Stent discomfort is one of the most common challenges after kidney stone surgery.

The STENTS study could help:

- Improve stent designs
- Guide better pain management
- Identify which symptoms are hardest to manage
- Determine when symptoms occur
- Improve experiences for patients who receive a stent after kidney stone surgery

What did we learn?

After surgery to treat kidney stones, doctors often place a small tube called a stent is put inside the body for a short time to help with healing. Many people experience discomfort while the stent is in place, but we want to learn more about what patients feel, when they feel it, and who is most affected. The STENTS study was created to understand patients' real-world experiences so doctors can improve pain treatment and care after surgery.

Learn more about this study from the full research article:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33081503>

To read the results of the STENTS study, visit:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39653015> or

visit usdrn.org/research/research-summaries to view a summary.