



VASECTOMY INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM

How does a vasectomy cause sterilization?

A vasectomy is a procedure done to interrupt the flow of sperm within the ejaculatory system. This interruption occurs by removing a small section of the vas deferens. When successful, this procedure causes sterilization and does not physically affect the sex drive. However, some men may experience self limited erectile dysfunction.

How long will it be before you are considered sterile?

It takes some time to get the vas deferens clear of all sperm (dead and live). This can vary from person to person, but the approximate number of ejaculations is between 10-15. You must have TWO consecutive semen samples without the presence of dead or live sperm to be considered sterile. These samples must be 4-6 weeks apart.

Is the procedure reversible?

Yes, there is a procedure called a vasovasostomy which involves reconnecting the cut and closed ends of the vas deferens from the previous vasectomy. If you have any desire to have children in the future we encourage you NOT to have a vasectomy at this time.

Is there a risk that the vasectomy may not work?

Rarely do the ends of the vas deferens reconnect and re-establish fertility. The vas deferens are closed off by the use of hemoclips that are placed on each end and then the vas deferens are separated and cauterized. In order to make sure your vasectomy is successful it is very important to come back into the office for semen sample follow-up as directed.

What are the possible complications that could occur?

There are always risks undergoing this procedure, however, they do not occur frequently.

- Bleeding. This would result in scrotal swelling up to the size of an orange. This bleeding can usually be treated by scrotal elevation and bed rest. Rarely, this would require further intervention.
- Wound infection. This can cause inflammation and/or purulent drainage from the vasectomy site. This usually can be treated with an antibiotic, opening of the wound, and taking warm baths as needed.
- Epididymitis. This is an inflammation of the epididymis which is located next to the testes. This is associated with painful swelling, fever, and chills. This can happen weeks after the procedure.
- Sperm granuloma. This is a deep swelling inside the scrotum at the site of the vasectomy. This is a result of the body's reaction to sperm which leak out from the area. This condition will usually resolve on its own and often requires no treatment. If it becomes a problem it can be surgically removed at a later date.
- Self limited erectile dysfunction.
- Persistent fertility. This may result due to an unsuspected (but rare) duplication of the vas deferens or due to failure of the vas deferens to close and seal completely. This may require a repeat vasectomy to correct.
- Adverse reactions to the local anesthetic agent. Tell your doctor if you have ever had any complications with lidocaine.
- Post vasectomy pain. You may experience some post vasectomy pain which is temporary and should be controlled with medication, whether it be a prescription given by your doctor or over the counter. On some rare occasions patients have had prolonged or long term sensitivity.

If you consent to having this procedure AND understand the risks, please sign below.

PATIENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

WITNESS SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PROVIDER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____