

VASECTOMY PATIENT INFORMATION



VASECTOMY CLINIC, ST MARY'S HEALTH CENTRE

THE PROCEDURE

The procedure will be carried out under local anaesthetic, which will be injected into either side of the scrotum. We utilise the 'No-Scalpel' technique which allows us to access the vas deferens (sperm pipe) without the use of a blade resulting in fewer complications than traditional vasectomy methods. Once the piping is exposed, a small section (up to 1cm) is taken away leaving 2 loose ends. These 2 loose ends are then occluded using diathermy (heat produced from high frequency electricity). It is the occluding of the piping that provides us with the best rates of success. The pipe is returned to the scrotum, and stitches are placed into the wounds. The stitches will dissolve themselves, this can take 2-3 weeks.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS BEFORE VASECTOMY OPERATION

- Please shave the scrotum 24 hours before coming for the operation.
- Ensure you have transport home as you cannot drive.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS BEFORE VASECTOMY OPERATION

- Following the procedure, you will need to be off work for up to two days, depending upon your job.
- Wear well supporting underpants or trunks up to the fifth day following surgery.
- You may start showering the following day but ensure that the two small wounds are thoroughly dried afterwards.
- · Paracetamol may be taken for pain relief.
- Intercourse may be resumed when desired. Exercise may be resumed when you feel fit.

POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROCEDURE

- · Infection in the wound.
- Bleeding at the site of the operation.
- The piping re-joining itself.
- Chronic scrotal pain.

However, these complications are uncommon.

The procedure should be considered to be irreversible. If you have any worries following the procedure, please come in to see Dr Jones.

POST PROCEDURE

4 months after the vasectomy procedure, you will have to submit a semen sample for analysis.

The report will then be sent to Dr Jones, usually within a week. Dr Jones will contact you when he has received the result. On occasion small numbers of sperm cells may be seen on your semen sample which can sometimes result in repeat sample(s) being requested. If repeat testing shows the presence of motile sperm at 7 months post-procedure then the piping is likely to have rejoined meaning a repeat vasectomy would be required to achieve sterility. These extra semen samples and a repeat procedure (if necessary) are included in the price and would not cost you anything further.

You need to continue to use an alternative contraception until you have been informed IN WRITING that you have had a clear sperm sample.

Please read the following information regarding semen analysis and sample collection carefully. For the laboratory to carry out the tests correctly, your cooperation in producing the samples of semen is essential. Please help us to provide the correct result for you.

GUIDELINES FOR POST VASECOMY SAMPLES

Your first sample should be provided at least four months after your operation.

We will arrange for our partner, **Acculabs**, to send you a home test kit. Before producing your sample:

- You should have had at least 24 ejaculations since your operation.
- · You should not ejaculate for 48 hours beforehand.
- You should provide your sample no later than 7 days after your last ejaculation.

Please insert the date you produce the sample onto the form and the sample bottle. Please ensure the whole ejaculate is collected into the sample bottle provided. Quality of personal hygiene is required.

All samples and forms should be clearly labelled with:

- · Patient Surname
- · Patient Forename
- Date of birth
- · Patient reference
- Sample Date
- · Sample Time

Unlabelled samples will be discarded. Samples without sample date will be discarded.

Place the Sealed Sample bottle into the transport bag and seal.

Place the form into the pouch in the transport bag, and place everything into the prepaid postal envelope.

Post the sample in a Royal Mail Post box **before 4pm on the day it's produced**.



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