

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF GREATER TEXAS

Client Information for Informed Consent

VASECTOMY

What is Vasectomy?

Vasectomy is a kind of birth control for men. It works by blocking the tubes that carry sperm to the penis so it keeps sperm out of semen. Semen is ejaculated, but it cannot cause pregnancy. It takes about 3 months before it works.

Vasectomy is one of the most effective methods of birth control. There is a small risk that it won't work. When men have their semen tested after vasectomy, there is less than 1 pregnancy per 2000 couples.

Vasectomy is meant to be permanent. Reversing it is difficult, expensive and often doesn't work. A man must be certain that he does not want to cause any pregnancies before he chooses this method.

What are the benefits of vasectomy?

- It is a highly effective method of birth control for men who do not want more children.
- It is safe and convenient.
- It allows a man to take responsibility for birth control.
- It may increase the enjoyment and frequency of sex.

What other choices do I have?

There are other methods of birth control that can be used by you and your partner(s). The only other method that is intended to be permanent is sterilization for the woman.

What are the risks of vasectomy?

- **Infection** in the skin, tubes, or testicles – Treatment with antibiotics, or very rarely, surgery, may be needed.
- **Bleeding.** You may notice blood from the place the skin was cut and this usually stops on its own.
- **Hematoma.** Bleeding under the skin that may cause swelling or bruising. It usually goes away on its own. It may need medical treatment or surgery.
- **Spermatic Granuloma.** Swelling caused by leakage of sperm from the tube that usually clears on its own. It may need to be drained.
- **Pain.** Very rarely, there may be bad pain in the scrotum or testicles that lasts for months or years.

What will happen to me during my vasectomy?

Vasectomy is done in the clinic. We may give you medicine to help you relax. The doctor will clean the scrotum. Numbing medicine will then be given in the area. The doctor or nurse will make 1 or 2 small holes or cuts in the skin of the scrotum and find both tubes that carry sperm to the penis to cut or block them. A small section of each tube may be removed.

What will happen to me after my vasectomy?

You can go home the same day. You may have some pain, swelling and/or bruising in the area. This is normal.

Warning Signs

Call the health center if you have:

- Fever (over 100.4° F)
- Blood or pus coming from the site of the incision
- Bad pain or swelling

FOR CLINIC STAFF USE ONLY

Client Name:

DOB:

MR#:

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You **must** bring in a semen sample 12 weeks after your vasectomy. It needs to be tested to make sure that you are sterile. You are considered sterile when there are no sperm in the sample or only a small amount of sperm that doesn't move. You need to use another method of birth control until we tell you that you are sterile. Very rarely a second vasectomy is needed when the first vasectomy does not make you sterile.

What else do I need to know?

- Vasectomy protects against pregnancy, but does not protect you from sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Always use a condom for protection against infection.
- Vasectomy does not cause any change in sexual performance, pleasure, sensation, interest, desire, satisfaction, ability to have an erection or to ejaculate, or amount of semen.

It is very important that you understand this information. We are happy to answer your questions.

What if I have an emergency?

Your health is important to us. If you have any questions or concerns or experience complications, call the health center immediately during business hours at 1-800-230-PLAN (1-800-230-7526). After business hours, call us at (877) 586-5702, go to the nearest emergency room, or call 911. We are happy to help you.

Client Printed Name

Signature

Date

I witness the client received this information, said she read and understood it, and had an opportunity to ask questions.

Witness Printed Name

Signature

Date

Parental consent

If the client's parent or legal guardian is legally required to sign below, check here: ☐

Signature of any other person consenting

Relationship to client

Date

I witness the fact that the client's parent or legal guardian (or person consenting in her behalf) received the above-mentioned information and said she/he read and understood it.

Signature of witness

Date

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