

Family Planning

Welfare Association of NT Inc.

ABN 38 812 238 738

Family Planning Welfare Association of the NT Inc exists to provide quality health care and education services in reproductive & sexual health

VASECTOMY

The male must understand that a vasectomy is a PERMANENT form of sterilisation and should only be undertaken when a man is certain that he does not want any further offspring.

A Vasectomy is usually a simple 30 minute procedure usually performed in your GP's room or at your hospital as a day surgery patient.

PREPARING FOR SURGERY

The male's general health and a medical history will be assessed by a GP/Doctor. The GP will be noting in particular previous operations, injuries or diseases of the scrotum and testes prior to the procedure being performed. A blood test may be requested.

THE PROCEDURE

A vasectomy is a minor procedure. The procedure entails the doctor using their gloved hands will locate the vas deferens a local anaesthetic is then injected over the vas. A small incision is then made into the scrotum. The vas is located, divided/cut and tied. The skin over the vas is either closed with an absorbable suture or is sometimes left open to heal. The operation is repeated in the exact way on the other side.

FOLLOW UP

A sperm count is performed after 3 months and is usually repeated 2 weeks later. Regular ejaculation is encouraged during the first 3 months. If having vaginal intercourse an alternative contraception must be used.

POSSIBLE PROBLEMS AND RISKS

5:100 men may experience some problem after vasectomy. The problems are almost always minor and often require simple treatment only.

Some problems that may occur can include:

- Pain
- Scrotal haematoma / bleeding
- Local infection / fever
- Re-anastomosis of tube re-growth

Watch for potential signs of serious complications and contact your GP / health provider if concerned at all.

IN SUMMARY

A vasectomy is about 99.85% effective.

Most men feel able to resume normal activities within 24-48 hours.

A vasectomy does not cause any change in hormone levels or in the appearance of volume of semen.

A vasectomy does not cause a change in the males sex drive.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FPWNT ON 8948 0144 OR HEALTH
DIRECT ON 1800 022 222**