

MANITOBA

MEN'S HEALTH

CLINIC

A GUIDE TO

Understanding Vasectomy Reversals

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Restoring Hope

VASECTOMY REVERSAL AT MEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

Choosing the Path to Parenthood

Facing infertility after a vasectomy can be a daunting journey. At Men's Health Clinic, we offer two key options for achieving your dream of having a child: vasectomy reversal and IVF/sperm extraction. During your consultation, we'll guide you through this crucial decision-making process, taking into account various factors, including the time since your vasectomy, prior fertility status, your partner's fertility status, and cost considerations.

A Personal Choice – Vasectomy Reversal vs. IVF/Sperm Extraction

The decision between vasectomy reversal and IVF/sperm extraction is personal and multifaceted. Vasectomy reversal success rates range from 60% to 95%, depending on the complexity of the repair. Generally, the sooner the vasectomy reversal is performed and the younger your partner, the more likely it is to result in natural conception. As your partner's age increases, natural conception becomes more challenging. Success rates decrease as more time passes since the vasectomy. Vasectomy reversal is often the most cost-effective choice if the vasectomy occurred less than 10 years ago, and your partner is under 40.

Understanding Vasectomy Reversal

A vasectomy reversal is a procedure that restores fertility in males who have undergone vasectomy. Our Co-Founder and highly experienced surgeon, Dr. Premal Patel (*subspecialty-trained microsurgical male fertility specialist*), conducts this procedure. With the highest level of precision, he identifies the vasectomy site and determines the best approach to restore sperm flow through the vas deferens.

The Vasectomy Reversal Procedure

The procedure can be performed with light sedation or deep sedation, according to your preferences. During the surgery, a small incision is made for reconnection. Fluid samples are taken to assess the presence of sperm. If sperm is present, a vasovasostomy (direct connection) is performed. If not, a vasoepididymostomy (bypass connection) is necessary. The entire procedure takes 2-3 hours, and we ensure meticulous care to optimize success.

Vasovasostomy (direct connection) vs. Vasoepididymostomy (bypass connection) – The Surgical Choice

A vasovasostomy reconnects the vas deferens at the vasectomy site, typically achieving a >95% success rate. In contrast, vasoepididymostomy attaches the vas deferens to a tiny tubule on the epididymis, with a 60-70% success rate. The decision between the two methods is made intra-operatively, with no additional cost or added risk associated with either procedure.

Can I have a sperm extraction at the time of a Vasectomy Reversal?

Yes, absolutely!

Risks of Vasectomy Reversal

In general, there are relatively few risks associated with vasectomy reversals. Although uncommon, the following are risks of the procedure:

1. Anesthesia-related issues
2. Hematoma
3. Infection
4. Lack of pregnancy despite a successful reversal
5. The success of the reversal varies based on individual factors, with no guarantee of restored fertility
6. Delayed scarring– you may have return of sperm in the ejaculate, but this can scar up. (This can happen in <10% of cases)
7. Post-operative pain is usually temporary, and long-term discomfort is rare
8. Scar tissue formation or sperm granuloma formation can occur, but these are manageable

Post-Surgery Follow-Up

Following vasectomy reversal, a two-week period of abstinence from intercourse and heavy lifting is recommended. Afterward, gradually resume normal activities based on your comfort. At 3 months post-surgery, we'll conduct a sperm analysis to assess ejaculate volume, sperm concentration, motility, and morphology to evaluate fertility.

We recommend having your vasectomy reversal planned around the time you wish to conceive. It is also important to start trying after 2 weeks (or when comfortable) as sperm can return quite quickly after a direct connection.

Choosing Vasectomy... *After* Vasectomy Reversal

Yes, absolutely, you can choose to have a vasectomy after your vasectomy reversal.

At Men's Health Clinic – your journey to parenthood is our mission.