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#### Darwin Urology

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# MICRO-SURGICAL VASECTOMY REVERSAL (VASOVASOSTOMY)

Providing Specialist Care in South Australia & Northern Territory

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### What is a Vasectomy Reversal?

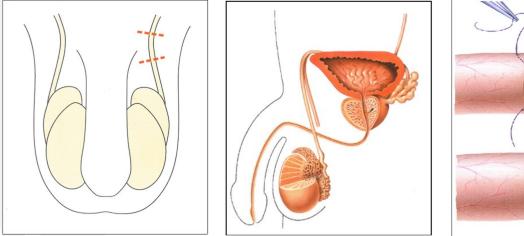
A vasectomy reversal is a surgical procedure to reconnect the male reproductive tract that carries sperm, after interruption by vasectomy.

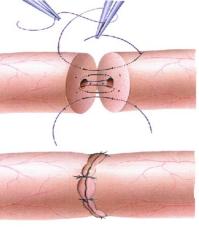
Sperm production continues after a vasectomy—some are absorbed but many are trapped in the epididymis and may cause back pressure and obstruction. This becomes more prevalent the longer the time since vasectomy.

Success measured by pregnancy rate varies widely but a large study in 1991 observed a pregnancy rate of 79% with reversal within 3 years of vasectomy—and gradually drops to 30% for reversals after 15 years or more. The age of the patient does not seem to matter.

The operation is performed with an operating microscope under a general anaesthetic. Incisions of 2cm are made on both sides of the scrotum. It is usually done as a day procedure. A dissolvable stitch is used to close the wounds and we give you a pad and ask you to wear firm-fitting underwear (not boxers).

## Preparation for your procedure





- Have a shower or bath on the day of your procedure.
- Shave the hairs from your scrotum.
- Bring 2 pairs of firm-fitting underwear.

## Sexual activity

Refrain from sexual activity for 3 weeks post operatively.

## What to expect afterwards

You are likely to have a small amount of bruising and pain. The pain will most likely subside within 7 days but it may last up to a month afterwards.

(S): Handouts/ Operation Handouts / Vasectomy Reversal / Current 15.1.2025



## **Complications**

#### <u>Infection</u>

the rate of infection is very low.

#### **Bruising**

It is likely you will have some bruising afterwards. We suggest you limit activity and wear firm-fitting underwear. Occasionally bruising can be severe (haematoma). This can be painful and take quite some time to resolve.

#### Pain

You should expect some pain afterwards. This is usually controlled with tablets and the worst should subside in a week.

#### After discharge from hospital

Take it easy for 7 days to minimise the risk of bleeding and bruising. Wear firm-fitting underwear.

## Driving

You should not drive for at least 3-4 days after having this operation (or as instructed by your Urologist).

Patients who are travelling outside the metropolitan area are required to check when they are able to travel, and will be required to stay in the metropolitan area for 24 hours (or as instructed by your Urologist).

#### **Emergency Contacts**

In the event of an emergency, call our office within business hours and speak to our Practice Nurse. If out of hours, please call our answering service or present to your nearest emergency department.

Ashford Hospital		
55 Anzac Highway, Ashford SA 5035	8375 5205	Until 10:00 PM
Flinders Medical Centre (access to Flinders Private H	lospital)	
Flinders Drive, Bedford Park SA 5042	8204 5511	24 Hours
Calvary Adelaide Hospital		
120 Angas Street, Adelaide SA 5000	8227 7027	24 Hours
Royal Darwin Hospital		
Rocklands Drive, Tiwi NT 0810	8922 8888	24 Hours

\*For patients outside the Metropolitan area, please present to your nearest hospital emergency department.

## Follow up

An appointment is made for review 3-4 weeks post procedure. A semen specimen for seminal fluid analysis is suggested at 3 months time. If you have any concerns after your procedure, then please contact us at Urological Solutions.

The content provided within this document is intended as a guide only and does not apply to all patients. Additional information, including patient specific potential risks, must be obtained during consultation with your Urologist.