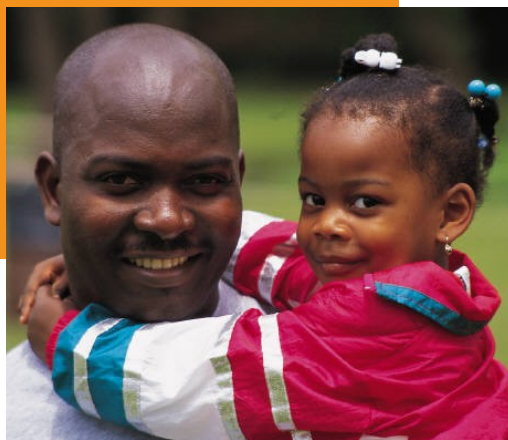


What is permanent birth control for men?

Vasectomy provides permanent birth control for men. Vasectomy is a safe, simple surgical procedure that makes a man sterile (unable to father more children). It is performed in a physician's office. Most men return to work in two to seven days.



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PEC APP 7/2011, Rev 5/2021

Regional Vasectomy Program

Permanent Birth Control for Men



Telephone: 336-641-4718

Are you ready for a vasectomy?

Consider vasectomy

Vasectomy is a permanent, surgical method of birth control for men. While no birth control method is 100% effective, vasectomy comes close.

The surgery is performed in a physician's office. Numbing medication is used before the surgery and a sedative may be given as well. A small opening is made on the front of the scrotum that allows a physician to seal the vas deferens (tubes that carry the sperm to the penis). The procedure only takes about 30 minutes.

There are very few risks associated with vasectomy. The most common ones include short-term aching and discomfort and short-term bruising and swelling. Small, painless lumps may form in the scrotum. There is a very rare risk that the surgery will not produce sterility or that the tubes will reconnect.

What you need to know about having a vasectomy:

- You will not be protected from sexually transmitted infections by a vasectomy. A condom should be used for sex every single time unless you're in a long-term committed relationship.
- Vasectomy does not change the way sex feels, change your ability to have sex or reduce your sex drive.
- You will not be sterile right away. One or two negative (no sperm seen) semen exams are required, depending on where the surgery is performed. You will need to continue another method of birth control until a physician tells you that your sperm count is zero.
- You can often return to work two to three days after having a vasectomy.
- Vasectomy should be considered permanent. A vasectomy reversal is possible, but the surgery is very costly, must be done in a hospital setting and is not covered by insurance.

Regional Vasectomy Program

Any male over the age of 21 can utilize the Regional Vasectomy Program. It is especially helpful for men who are uninsured or underinsured.

The fee depends on the size of the family and the family's income level. Many pay little or nothing.

To access Regional Vasectomy Program for your surgery, call or see the family planning nurse or family planning counselor at your local health department, or call the Regional Vasectomy Program office at 336-641-4718.



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