



What is Permanent Birth Control for Men?

A **vasectomy** provides permanent birth control for men. A vasectomy is a safe and simple surgical procedure that makes a man sterile (unable to father children). It is performed in a physician's office and most men return to work within two to seven days.

FREE Interpreter Services available upon request!



GUILFORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



1100 E Wendover Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27405



501 East Green Dr.
High Point, NC 27260



336-641-4718

Regional Vasectomy Program

PEC APP REV 4/2023
RVP brochure English



Are you ready for a vasectomy?

- ◆ A vasectomy is a **permanent, surgical method of birth control for men**. While no birth control method is 100% effective, a 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 a 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 getting 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.
- ◆ A 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 seven days after having a vasectomy.**
- ◆ **A 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.

Title X Program

Our 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 very little or nothing.
- ◆ **To contact the Regional Vasectomy Program** for your surgery, call or see the family planning nurse/ family planning counselor at your local health department. You can also call the Regional Vasectomy Program office at **336-641-4718**.