

# Can a vasectomy be reversed?

Vasectomy reversal is an outpatient surgery that re-establishes a connection between the tubes that carry sperm from the testicles into the semen. After successful vasectomy reversal, sperm are present and you may be able to get your partner pregnant. Vasectomy reversal can be attempted even if several years have passed since the original vasectomy — but the longer it's been, the less likely it is to work.

The procedure is performed at our outpatient surgical center with general anesthesia.

**Virginia Urology** is one of the largest private urology and urosurgical practices in Virginia.

Virginia Urology physicians and staff are dedicated to offering care that blends state-of-the-art medical expertise with compassionate, individualized attention. Every physician's expertise is *specific* to urology. This includes our urologists, radiation oncologists, physical therapists, pathologists and radiologists. Each has specialized training and experience in urology, ensuring our patients receive the highest quality of care.

Our physicians keep up with the latest medical advances, and they work as a team to review patient care and identify the best treatment options available for each patient.

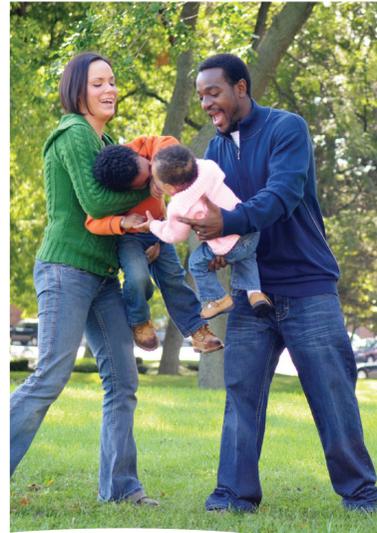
**APPOINTMENTS** (804) 288-0339

You may also request an appointment online:

[www.URO.com](http://www.URO.com)



## Patient Guide for Vasectomy



## What is a vasectomy?

Every year nearly one-half million men in the United States will choose to have a vasectomy – the most effective means of permanent birth control available today. The 15 – 20 minute operation involves cutting the 2 tubes called vas deferens so that sperm can no longer get into the semen.

## Do vasectomies cause any side effects?

Safe and simple for men of all ages who desire permanent sterility, vasectomy does not affect the production of male hormones nor does it alter sexual functioning. What's more, sensation during sexual intercourse and the ability to have an erection are unchanged. Since sperm occupies only a small portion of semen (ejaculation is composed of 98% body fluid and only 2% sperm) the volume of ejaculation is not significantly changed.

## Where are vasectomies performed?

Virginia Urology's physicians perform vasectomies on an outpatient basis in the Virginia Urology Surgery Center or at the ambulatory care facility of your choice.

## What is recuperation from a vasectomy like?

You may return to work in two to three days if your work is sedentary. If your work involves heavy, physical activity, you may wish to wait an additional 48 – 72 hours. You should not bathe or shower for the first 24 hours following surgery. Sexual activity using birth control can be resumed within one week, **but it's absolutely essential to continue to use another method of birth control until your doctor tells you your sperm count is zero.** This will be determined by laboratory analysis of your semen sample after your surgery. When two consecutive specimens are found to be sperm-free, you are considered sterile and birth control is no longer necessary.



The physicians at Virginia Urology have extensive experience with the vasectomy procedure and are available to discuss this with you.

For additional information about our practice and the vasectomy procedure, please visit us at [www.uro.com](http://www.uro.com). Please call to schedule a consultation at **(804) 288-0339**.