

VasectomyCenter – Seattle * Eastside * Edmonds

Specializing in No-Needle No-Scalpel Vasectomy

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Possible Post-Operative Risks & Complications

As with any surgical procedure, it is not uncommon to experience some very minor discomfort. Other annoyances which might occur include 1) bruising or black and blue marks on the scrotum, 2) slight discharge from the skin puncture site and 3) rusty (old blood) discoloration to the semen with the first few ejaculates. These situations are self-limiting and require no treatment.

Although serious complications are exceedingly rare, it is important that you understand even the most unlikely risks. These include:

1. Epididymitis: Painful swelling of the tissues along the side or sides of the testis/testicles. This inflammation is usually self limiting and resolves spontaneously. Treatment with anti-inflammatories or antibiotics may be necessary

2. Sperm Granuloma: A persistent tender swelling beneath the skin at the end of the cut vas deferens. This may occur secondary to leakage of sperm from the severed ends of the tubes into the surrounding tissues causing an inflammatory reaction. This reaction usually resolves spontaneously. In very rare cases surgical excision may be required.

3. Hematoma: Bleeding into the scrotal sac. The scrotum may become swollen and discolored and may require a second incision to drain the accumulated blood.

4. Abscess: Infection and pus that accumulates within the scrotum which may require a second incision for drainage.

5. Recanalization: The ends of the vas may spontaneously rejoin. If sperm are present in the semen at a later date, the operation would have to be redone. This could potentially result in an unexpected pregnancy. This occurs in about 1 in every 2,000-3,000 cases.

6. Chronic testes pain: Rarely, some men complain of increased sensitivity and even pain in one or both testicles. Many theories exist as to its origin but none are certain.