# IS A VASECTOMY FOR YOU?

### VASECTOMY IS A SIMPLE AND SAFE PROCEDURE THAT MAKES A MAN STERILE (UNABLE TO FATHER A CHILD).

It is the most effective birth control method for men. There are many good reasons you might choose to have a vasectomy. It is a serious step; therefore, you and your partner should understand all the facts and share in the decision-making process.

### **A Permanent Decision**

Having a vasectomy is a permanent decision. Before you make this choice, you must be sure this is what you want. Vasectomies are chosen for many reasons. No matter what the reason is, be sure to ask yourself this important question: Do you want any more children?

### Vasectomy Facts

- A vasectomy does not affect your ability to have an erection.
- · A vasectomy does not limit your sexual enjoyment.
- Having a vasectomy will not protect you against sexual transmitted diseases (STD's).
- After a vasectomy your male hormone levels remain the same.
- After a vasectomy your sex drive, hair distribution and the pitch of your voice will not change.

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## 205-930-0920

### **How it Works**

Vasectomy is an outpatient procedure (same day) that can be done in a doctor's office or a hospital. Your Urologist will discuss this with you.

### **Possible Risks and Complications**

Vasectomy is a safe procedure but does have risks such as bleeding and infection. The following complications may also occur.

- Sperm Granuloma: a small, harmless lump that may form where the Vas Deferens are sealed off
- Sperm buildup (congestion): may cause soreness in the testes. Anti-inflammatory medications can provide relief
- Epididymitis: inflammation that may cause scrotal aching. Anti-inflammatory medications can provide relief. Often goes away without treatment
- Reconnection of the Vas Deferens: this makes you fertile again and can result in an unwanted pregnancy
- Sperm Antibodies: a common response of the body to sperms that have been absorbed. This can make you sterile, even if you later try to reverse your vasectomy
- Chronic scrotal pain: scrotal pain may occur, but is very rare

### **Physician Discussion**

Your physician will discuss surgery preparation, risk and complications with you.



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