

Dr. Ian MacDonald
M.B. ChB. F.R.C.S. F.R.C.S. (GLASG.)

Alpine Medical Clinic
211 Bear St, Unit 201A, Banff, Alberta
T: (403)762-3155 F: (403)762-5797
www.banffmedical.com

No Scalpel Vasectomy

NO SCALPEL VASECTOMY:

Is a permanent form of contraception, the procedure lasts approximately 15 minutes, but allow a total of 1 hour for the appointment. During the procedure the two tubes (vas) that carry sperm in the testes are blocked so that semen cannot reach the sperm. The method is called no scalpel because there are no scalpels involved and no sutures are required. Unlike the conventional method only small punctures are made, rather than two incisions. The procedure is deemed virtually painless as a result and you will be able to drive afterwards.

PREPARATION:

Avoid all aspirin products two weeks before the procedure

Lather and wash the scrotum and groin area twice a day for the two days before.

On the day of the procedure you must clip or trim the hair from the front of the scrotum and the base of the penis.

Bring a clean athletic support of two form fitting pairs of underwear (not boxers) these act as an additional support.

YOU MAY EAT AND DRINK AS NORMAL ON THE DAY OF YOUR EXAMINATION.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

Under local anesthetic Dr MacDonald locates the vas tubes under the skin, holding them in place with a small clamp. A tiny puncture is then made, a small section of the vas is removed, the tubes are cauterized and the ends clipped. The openings heal within days and there is no scarring.

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS:

There may be some dull aching in the testicles after the local anesthetic has worn off. The ache is mild and may occur over the next few days. The incision may ooze a small amount for a few days and the area may bruise. If you are in discomfort you may Ibuprofen and Tylenol. If you have any concerns call the clinic.

No shower for 48 hours

No lifting more than 10 pounds for 7 days

No hockey, contact sports, skiing or biking for 10 days

No hot tubes or swimming for 2 weeks

Wear 2 pairs of form-fitting underwear for 2 days, wearing 1 pair at night for support.

The gauze should be kept on for 2-3 days. If the gauze falls off and there is any bleeding, pinch skin apply pressure and add a new piece of gauze, if there is no bleeding it is fine to just wear clean form-fitting underwear.

Patients are to assume it has not worked until they have completed the post procedure semen analysis and had the results confirmed. You will be given an orange lidded sterile container and a lab requisition. After 25 ejaculations please submit the semen sample to your nearest lab (this must be done within 1 hour of sample collection). Then follow up with your family physician or Dr MacDonald to ensure the sample is clear.

RISKS:

Vasectomy in general is safe and no scalpel is considered even safer. It is a minor surgical procedure and as such there are some risks such as bleeding and infection. If you have any concerns please call Dr MacDonald. If you experience severe pain, swelling of the scrotum, redness or pus around the opening or a fever call your family physician or Dr MacDonald immediately. Remember that bruising is normal but be vigilant for an enlarged mass in the scrotum larger than a 25 cent piece, if this is accompanied with pain then it can be a sign of a hematoma (blood clot) and should be treated immediately.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the procedure painful?

It varies with the individual, most men state the discomfort is mild, and that there is no pain once the local anesthetic is administered.

Will my sex life be affected?

NO. You will still ejaculate as normal and it has no affect on the production of sex hormones.

Is a vasectomy effective immediately?

NO. Until you have completed the post-operative semen analysis and it has been confirmed clear you should use another form of birth control.

Can a no scalpel vasectomy be reversed?

Technically there is a chance it can be reversed there is no guarantee and it is expensive. The clinic considers this a permanent form of contraception and if you are in doubt then now is not the time to have the procedure.

When can I start having sex again?

Wait at least 7 days and remember to use birth control until you have confirmed the results of the post-operative semen analysis.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS:

Contact Dr. Ian MacDonald through his office at (403) 762-3155.

This procedure takes place in the Clinics surgical suite, but can also be performed in the Mineral Springs Hospital.

NOTE: Please inform the office 1 week prior to your appointment if you need to cancel or you will be charged \$100.00 for a no-show.