

# William L. Mulchin, M.D.

DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF UROLOGY  
FELLOW OF AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
ADULT & PEDIATRIC UROLOGY

3900 W 15th St. #408  
Plano, Tx. 75075

(972) 867-3928  
(972) 596-4056 Fax

## CONSENT FOR VASECTOMY (STERILIZATION OPERATION)

### **1. Explanation of Sterilization Procedure**

A vasectomy is a minor surgical procedure that can be performed in the doctor's office or hospital under local anesthetic and involves cutting the vas deferens in the scrotum. The surgery takes approximately 30 minutes and involves making a small incision on each side of the scrotum. The sperm duct (vas deferens) is then cut and sealed and the sealed ends of the duct are then returned to the scrotum. To reduce the possibility that the cut tubes may rejoin, a ¼ to ½ inch piece of vas deferens may be removed during the surgery. There are normally 4-6 stitches used which dissolve by themselves.

### **2. Description of the Discomforts and Risks**

A small amount of oozing blood (enough to stain the dressing), some discomfort and mild swelling in the area of the incision are not unusual and should subside within 72 hours. Occasionally, the skin of the scrotum and base of the penis turn black and blue. This is not painful and will disappear after a few days.

Very rarely a small blood vessel may escape into the scrotum and continue to bleed to form a clot. A small clot will be absorbed after a time, but a large one is painful and usually requires reopening of the scrotum and drainage is required. Hospitalization and a general anesthetic may be required for this purpose.

The Texas Medical Disclosure panel has included the "loss of testicle" as a complication of vasectomy. However, this has never occurred in my experience of several thousand vasectomies performed.

Up to five days following the vasectomy, sex should be eliminated. Strenuous exercise (for example, climbing ladders, riding motorbikes, bicycles, playing tennis, etc.) should likewise be avoided for three days and nothing that weights over a few pounds should be lifted. The reason for this is that engaging in these activities sometimes result in complications.

The surgical procedure is not always 100% effective in preventing pregnancy, because on rare occasions the cut ends of the cord may rejoin. This only occurs at a rate of one in every 600 vasectomies.

Sperm can survive from the point where the cords were cut for months; so another form of contraceptive must be used until sterility is assured. For this purpose, a specimen of seminal fluid should be brought in for microscopic examination. The specimen must contain no sperm before unprotected intercourse is allowed. Occasionally, it may take six months or longer to flush out all the sperm.

### 3. Benefits to be expected

Sexual activity, penile sensitivity, and the production of male hormones are not adversely affected. In fact, the freedom from fear of producing unwanted children might greatly improve the mutual enjoyment in your sexual relations. You may find that your desire for sexual expression becomes more spontaneous and more frequent.

### 4. Counseling Concerning Alternate Methods

If your objective is merely to space out pregnancies or if you have even the slightest reason to believe that you might want to have children in the future, then a vasectomy is not for you and should not be considered.

I, the undersigned, and my wife (if married), give to William L. Mulchin M.D., my/our consent to sterilize by vasectomy, \_\_\_\_\_ . I understand that this is the most reliable method of producing inability to reproduce.

A semen examination is required after 10 and 12 weeks before sterility can be established. If deemed necessary, repeat semen analysis will be performed at monthly intervals (precaution should be taken until the time of release). Even though this is the most reliable form of sterilization, no surgical results are implied or guaranteed by this consent form. It is understood that a small percentage of men who have vasectomies regain their fertility. It is also understood that although this procedure is considered permanent, surgical reversal is possible in most cases. The success rate is approximately 70-75%.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received and read a copy of the vasectomy book.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received a copy of the vasectomy y instruction sheet and understand all the statements.

PATIENT: \_\_\_\_\_

WIFE: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_