

WHO IS SUITABLE FOR A PENILE PROSTHESIS?

Men that have persistent erectile dysfunction (ED) that impacts their sexual activity

Men who have ED that cannot be successfully treated with oral or injectable medications

Men who wish to have a permanent and effective solution for their ED

Men who have a severe case of Peyronie's disease (a condition that causes scarring inside the penis, leading to painful and bent erections)

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A PENILE PROSTHESIS?

A penile prosthesis allows a man to gain an erection in cases where this would otherwise not be possible

Sensation on the skin and ejaculation are not affected by the implant

The inflatable implants are discrete and the penis looks completely natural both when flaccid and erect

Semi-rigid implants are advantageous for men with limited hand dexterity, such as those who have suffered spinal injury

HOW IS A PENILE PROSTHESIS SURGERY PERFORMED?



This procedure is performed under general anaesthetic and takes around 2 hours to complete. The surgeon selects an appropriately sized implant to match the patient's normal body and penis size. An incision is typically made at the base of the penis where it joins the scrotum, or alternatively below the pubic bone, through which the implant is inserted.

Sometimes a separate incision is made in the abdomen to implant the saline fluid reservoir.

Once all the components are in place, the surgeon closes the incisions with dissolving sutures.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER PENILE PROSTHESIS SURGERY?



Most patients go home the day following their penile prosthesis surgery

You will have a urinary catheter overnight for comfort to drain the bladder

This is a sensitive area and will require multi-modal pain management – your anaesthetist will prescribe an appropriate plan for you

You will be prescribed antibiotics on discharge to minimize the chance of infection

Full recovery usually takes 6 weeks; during this time strenuous activity should be avoided

The prosthesis will be activated at the 6 week mark – sexual activity may then commence over the coming weeks depending on level of comfort

PROCEDURE OUTCOMES



Most men are very satisfied with the outcomes of penile prosthesis surgery

Having a prosthesis does not change the sensation

on the skin or a man's ability to reach orgasm.

Ejaculation is not affected.

Over 90% of penile implants produce erections that are suitable for intercourse, making the procedure very effective

Implant surgery is a permanent solution to ED – it replaces the damaged and non-functioning erectile tissue

Most devices have a durability of more than 10 years

Written by [Dr. Shekib Shahbaz](#) and [Dr. Tony de Sousa](#)

European Association of Urology, (2021), Penile Implants [

<https://patients.uroweb.org/treatments/penile-implants/>], accessed 28/02/21.

Coloplast, (2021), Penile Implants, [

<https://www.coloplastmenshealth.com/erectile-dysfunction/penile-implants/>], accessed 28/02/21.