

# MICROSCOPIC VASECTOMY REVERSAL (REVERSE VASECTOMY)

---

## WHO IS SUITABLE FOR MICROSCOPIC VASECTOMY REVERSAL (REVERSE VASECTOMY)?

---

Melbourne Urology Centre offers microscopic vasectomy reversal treatment in Melbourne to local and interstate patients. Your case will be thoroughly evaluated including discussion of other appropriate management options. We also have close affiliation with fertility clinics for those patients that are better suited to Assisted Reproductive Techniques (ART)/ IVF.

## WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF MICROSCOPIC VASECTOMY REVERSAL?

---

Minimally invasive [reverse vasectomy](#)

Able to have multiple conceptions if successful and desired

More cost-effective than assisted reproductive techniques (ART)

Allows natural conception

Ease of sperm retrieval for ART in future if necessary

## HOW IS MICROSCOPIC VASECTOMY PERFORMED?

---



Detailed pre-operative consultation to evaluate patient suitability for the procedure

Reverse vasectomy is performed under general anaesthesia

An incision is made in the scrotum and the vas deferens is identified on each side and delicately separated from surrounding tissue

Depending on intra-operative findings a decision is made whether to perform vaso-vasotomy or vaso-epididymostomy. The latter is a more complex procedure, performed if no semen back-flow is identified when the vas deferens is cut close to the testicular end. A high powered microscope with up to 40 times magnification is used

The wound is infiltrated with local anaesthetic and absorbable sutures are used to close the skin

Protective spray and supportive dressing is applied  
Most patients will have day-case surgery although some will require overnight stay

Strenuous activity and sex should be avoided for 4 weeks. Scrotal support with firm-fitting underwear is recommended for two weeks

After a successful microscopic vasectomy reversal, sperm will again be present in the semen allowing for possible subsequent pregnancy

## WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER MICROSCOPIC VASECTOMY REVERSAL?

---



During the first 48 hours, supportive underwear and dressings should be left intact. This can then come off and the sutures do not need to be removed but may take a few weeks to dissolve

As the local anaesthetic wears off, the pain may increase over the first 24 hours but this subsides after a few days. Patients can return to light duties at work after a week

Any activity that may pull on testes/scrotum should be avoided for six weeks; this includes sports/running and any other strenuous activity

Sexual activity should be avoided for four weeks

## PROCEDURE OUTCOMES / RISKS

---



Follow up for semen analysis is performed after 8-12 weeks

Viable sperm may take up to a year to appear. The presence of sperm does not guarantee successful pregnancy due to sperm antibodies, poor quality sperm and female partner sub-fertility

## RISKS

---



Scrotal bleeding / haematoma

Chronic testicular pain is uncommon but can happen after any scrotal surgery

Infection and wound complications are rare

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

Sharlip, I.D., Belker, A.M., Honig, S., Labrecque, M.,

Marmar, J.L., Ross, L.S., Sandlow, J.I., Sokal, D.C., (2012), Vasectomy: AUA Guideline, The Journal of Urology, 188(6), [

[\[https://www.auajournals.org/doi/full/10.1016/j.juro.2012.09\]](https://www.auajournals.org/doi/full/10.1016/j.juro.2012.09), accessed 19/02/21.

Urology Care Foundation, (2021), Vasectomy Reversal,

[\[https://www.urologyhealth.org/urology-a-z/v/vasectomy-reversal\]](https://www.urologyhealth.org/urology-a-z/v/vasectomy-reversal), accessed 28/02/21.