

D. Landon Allen, MD MPH, MBA  
Physician and Managing Member  
Dr.Allen@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

420 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St., West Jefferson, NC 28694  
(P) 336-489-4400



Caitlin M. Sullivan, MD  
Physician and Member  
Dr.Sullivan@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

www.NewRiverFamilyWellness.com  
(F) 336-489-4500

## **No - Scalpel Vasectomy**

### **What are the advantages of no-scalpel vasectomy?**

- No incision; no stitches
- Faster method and healing
- Less chance of bleeding and other problems
- Less discomfort
- Works just as well as other methods

### **How can I be sure I want a vasectomy?**

Talk to your partner. It's a good idea to decide together. Discuss how many children you want to have and how you would feel about an unplanned pregnancy.

Talk to a friend or relative who has had a vasectomy. Talk with a doctor, nurse, or family planning counselor. Think about other kinds of birth control.

A vasectomy might not be right for you if you are very young, your current relationship is not stable, you are having the vasectomy just to please your partner, you are under a lot of stress, or you are counting on being able to reverse the procedure later.

Once you sign your consent for a vasectomy, you will be required to wait for 30 days. This wait allows you time to think about your choice and make sure it is what you want to do since a vasectomy is permanent.

### **What is special about a no-scalpel vasectomy?**

No-scalpel vasectomy is different from a conventional vasectomy in the way the doctor gets to the tubes. Also, a numbing drug helps make it less painful.

In a conventional vasectomy, after the scrotum has been numbed with a local drug, the doctor makes one or two small cuts in the skin and lifts each tube in turn, cutting and blocking them so the sperm cannot reach the semen. Then the doctor stitches the cuts closed.

D. Landon Allen, MD MPH, MBA  
Physician and Managing Member  
Dr.Allen@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

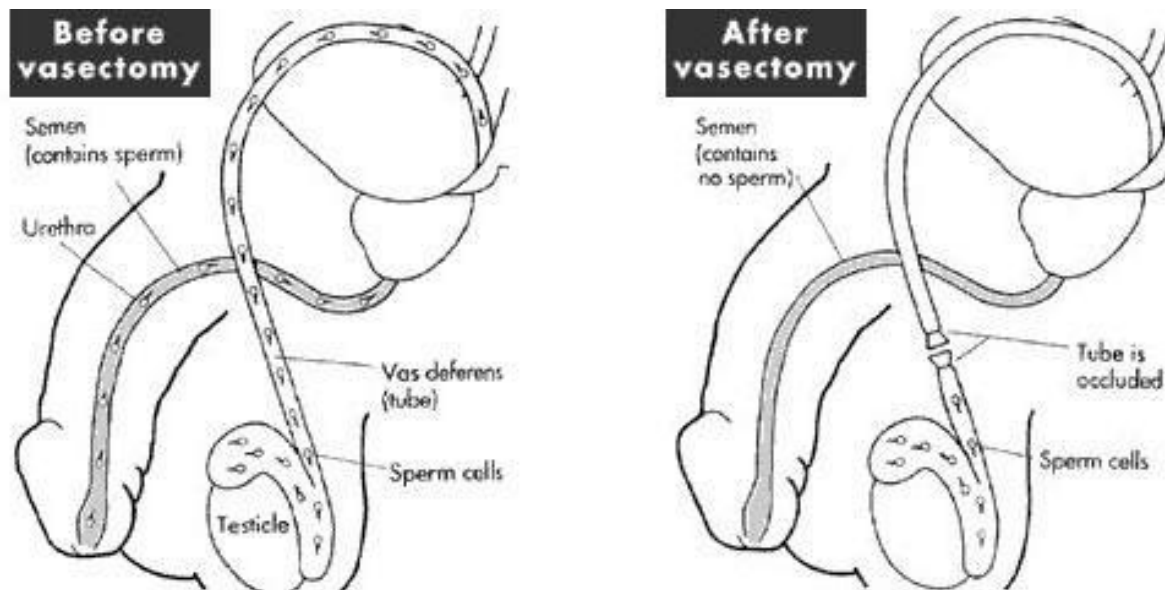
420 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St., West Jefferson, NC 28694  
(P) 336-489-4400



Caitlin M. Sullivan, MD  
Physician and Member  
Dr.Sullivan@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

www.NewRiverFamilyWellness.com  
(F) 336-489-4500

In a no-scalpel vasectomy, the doctor feels for the tubes under the skin and holds them in place with a small clamp. Instead of making two cuts, the doctor makes one tiny puncture with a special tool. The same tool is used to gently stretch the opening so the tubes can be reached. The tubes are then blocked using the same methods as conventional vasectomy. There is very little bleeding with the no scalpel technique. No stitches are needed to close the tiny openings which heal quickly with no scar.



### **Is no-scalpel vasectomy safe?**

Vasectomy is safe and simple. It is an operation, and all operations have some risks, such as bleeding, bruising, and infection. Serious problems usually do not happen.

### **Does no-scalpel vasectomy work?**

It works as well as any other vasectomy method. There is a less than 1% chance that a man's partner will become pregnant.

### **Will I be sterile right away?**

No. After a vasectomy, there are always some active sperm left in your system. It takes about 20 ejaculations to clear them. You and your partner should use some other form of birth control until your doctor tests your semen and tells you it is free of sperm.

D. Landon Allen, MD MPH, MBA  
Physician and Managing Member  
Dr.Allen@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

420 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St., West Jefferson, NC 28694  
(P) 336-489-4400



Caitlin M. Sullivan, MD  
Physician and Member  
Dr.Sullivan@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

www.NewRiverFamilyWellness.com  
(F) 336-489-4500

### **When can I start having sex again?**

As soon as you are comfortable. This is usually 7 -10 days after your vasectomy. You must use some other kind of birth control until the doctor says you are sterile.

### **Will a vasectomy change me sexually?**

The only thing that will change is that you will not be able to make your partner pregnant. Your body will still produce the hormones that make you a man. You will have the same amount of semen. Vasectomy won't affect your facial hair, your sex drive, your erections, or your climaxes. Some men say that without worry of pregnancy and bother of other birth control methods, sex is more relaxed and fun than before.

### **How long will a no-scalpel vasectomy take?**

It depends upon the doctor, but plan on being in the office for about an hour. Most vasectomies are done in the doctor's office or in a clinic.

### **Will it hurt?**

Before the vasectomy, the doctor may give you a mild pill to relax you. When the local drug is injected into the skin of the scrotum, you will feel some mild pain. But as soon as it takes effect, you should feel no pain. Later, you will be sore for a couple of days, and you might want to take a mild drug for pain. But the pain is usually less with the no-scalpel technique because there is less injury to the tissues. Also, there are no stitches. Your doctor or nurse will give you instructions about your care.

### **How soon can I go back to work?**

You should do very little for at least 48 hours after your vasectomy. Your doctor may ask you to take more time if your work involves heavy and hard labor. If your job doesn't involve this kind of work, you can go back sooner. Many men have their vasectomies on Friday so they can take it easy over the weekend and go back to work on Monday.

### **Does vasectomy cause any health problems?**

D. Landon Allen, MD MPH, MBA  
Physician and Managing Member  
Dr.Allen@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

420 E 2<sup>nd</sup> St., West Jefferson, NC 28694  
(P) 336-489-4400



Caitlin M. Sullivan, MD  
Physician and Member  
Dr.Sullivan@NewRiverFamilyWellness.com

www.NewRiverFamilyWellness.com  
(F) 336-489-4500

A number of studies have looked at the health effects of vasectomy. They suggest that men who have had a vasectomy are no more likely than other men to get heart disease, cancer, or other illness.

### **Will it protect me from getting or passing on STDs or AIDS?**

No. It will only prevent you from making your partner pregnant. If you or your partner have a sexually transmitted disease, or have more than one sexual partner, the best way to protect yourself and your partner is to use a condom.

### **Can a no-scalpel vasectomy be reversed?**

No more than any other type of vasectomy. Think of all vasectomies as permanent. Reversal operations are costly and don't always work. If you are thinking about reversal, perhaps vasectomy is not right for you.

### **How much will it cost?**

Costs will vary depending on the clinic and provider you see. Most range from \$800 to \$2,000. At New River Family Wellness, we charge members \$450 for the procedure. Non-members may also obtain a vasectomy for \$600 (\$50 at the initial consultation and \$550 at the time of the procedure). In addition, the post-procedure semen analysis costs \$14.73. If a patient does not return a sample for the semen analysis, the portions of the vas deferens removed during the procedure will be sent to the pathologist for evaluation resulting in a \$44 pathology charge.