

# ABOUT PENILE PROSTHETIC SURGERY

## **Description of the procedure**

This procedure is carried out to correct sexual dysfunction not helped by other forms of treatment or if you prefer this treatment to others. Initial success rate is 90%. On average, inflatable prostheses function effectively for 7-10 years, with the semi-rigid prosthesis lasting a little longer. This procedure is performed under epidural or general anesthesia. An incision is made at the junction of the penis and the scrotum and occasionally a second incision is made just above your pubic bone dependent upon prior surgeries. In most cases, three components of the device are inserted: the erectile cylinders within the penis, the pump device in the scrotum, and the fluid reservoir behind the pubic bone. This procedure results in the loss of 100-200cc of blood and does not require a blood transfusion. It normally takes about 1-3 hours, depending on the type of prosthesis being inserted.

## **After the operation:**

You will be in the recovery room for 2-4 hours after the procedure and will spend 0-1 night in the hospital. You may be able to eat soon afterwards, depending on your body's reaction to the anesthetic. You may have a urinary catheter to drain the bladder, which will be removed the next day. If you have a drain, it will also be removed the next day. The dressing is changed the next day, and you will be shown how to change the bandage. This should be done every day for 5 days.

Also, it is necessary to keep the penis dry for 2 days. You may shower the second day after the operation, but you should attempt to keep the incision(s) dry. You will be given a prescription for pain medication and antibiotics to take home, however the best painkiller is an ice pack. You should put the ice pack on the penis intermittently the first day. Most patients will have painful erections at night. If you put an ice pack on the penis, the pain will go away in a few minutes.

You should be able to go back to work in 1-2 weeks, depending on the type of prosthesis and the type of work you perform. All the sutures on the skin will dissolve in about 4 weeks. Sexual intercourse is not advisable for 6 weeks and avoid ALL strenuous activity that might result in contact with the prosthesis or its components. Ivan Rothman will activate your device and demonstrate its use to you at your follow-up visit in 5 to 6 weeks.

## **Alternatives:**

Pills such as Viagra, urethral inserts (e.g., MUSE), injection treatment into the penis, vacuum suction device (with or without injection treatment), and vascular surgery on veins and arteries.

## **Considerations regarding penile prosthesis:**

This is an irreversible procedure and results in irreversible changes to the erectile tissue. After this procedure, erection is not natural and the penis may become shorter and narrower. It might also require surgery in the future for its complications, including its removal, and replacement is not guaranteed. The prosthesis does not affect ability to achieve climax or ejaculation.

**Possible side effects or complications:**

- Infection is the most serious complication, and the rate is 2-5%. It may manifest early (within 10 days or so) or late (several months or years). The infection rate is higher if you have scar tissue in the penis from Peyronie's disease or previous implantation.
- Perforation of the prosthesis may occur at the back of the penis behind the scrotum, into the urethra, or at the head of the penis. If perforation of the urethra occurs during the surgery, the operation will have to be stopped. If it occurs later, the device will have to be removed or replaced and the site of perforation repaired.
- The tubing of a three-piece prosthesis may be injured in future abdominal or scrotal surgery.
- Pain may persist for several weeks or even months following surgery.
- Tissue loss (necrosis) may occur in patients with vascular disease (diabetes) or patients undergoing extensive reconstruction of the penis for scarring or Peyronie's disease (rare).
- There is substantial interference with urination with a semi-rigid prosthesis.
- Possible numbness near the incision, which may take several months to resolve.
- Possible bruising (black and blue), which may take several weeks to resolve.
- Scarring near the incision.

If you have any questions before or after the operation, please call the Urology Clinic at 206-598-4294.

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Patient Signature

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Date

Patient Label