

IN THE KNOW SYMPTOMS TESTS & TREATMENT



“ This repair allows a couple to achieve natural fertilization without hormones or drugs.”

men are encouraged to take one week off from work and avoid exercise and strenuous activity for four weeks.

I received special training in microscopic surgery during

A Chance for a Second Chance

The Leica Scope Makes Vasectomy Reversal an Office-Based Procedure

Many men successfully undergo vasectomy—the cutting or tying of the tubes that carry sperm from the testes—for permanent birth control. While a routine, safe procedure, it has traditionally been considered irreversible.

But new surgical techniques and improved surgical equipment have turned the tables on this assumption.

Recently, AMP Urology acquired a sophisticated Leica microscope capable of binocular, three-dimensional magnification of the tiny sperm-carrying tubes, called vas deferens. This powerful microscope allows physicians to reconnect the tubes and restore natural fertility. It has electronic controls that allow a surgeon to move, focus, and zoom the field of view robotically with a foot pedal. These tiny, exact movements allow an unprecedented degree of accuracy for vas deferens repair.

Thanks to this technology, the reversal procedure can be done in the office with a mild intravenous anesthetic in approximately two to three hours. The recovery period and process is similar to a vasectomy—



By Pavlov-Shapiro, MD
Board-Certified Urologist

my residency, and I have continued to refine my techniques over the past four years in practice in Syracuse, New York. I find that the magnification and imaging detail provided by our Leica scope allows 16 to 20 tiny sutures to be used to reconnect the delicate tubes that carry sperm. This repair allows a couple to achieve natural fertilization without hormones or drugs.

Many men who seek vasectomy reversal have been remarried and are looking to start a family with their new bride. In other cases, couples who once thought their child-rearing years were over are looking for a second chance. According to recent data from the Society for the Study of Male Reproduction, there are approximately 500,000 vasectomies performed annually, with as many as 10% eventually seeking reversal or other reproductive assistance.

Vasectomy reversal is an emotional subject requiring input from both partners. A board-certified urologic surgeon and member of the Sexual Medicine Society, I am available to counsel couples on the procedure.

The initial consultation involves a 30- to 45-minute visit to take a complete medical history and discuss options for reversal. I go over the risks and benefits, as well as the chance of success, which is based on a number of factors in a patient's medical history and examination.

To facilitate open discussion on this sensitive topic, and since this procedure is often an out-of-pocket expense and not covered by insurance, our initial consultation is free of charge. Plus, by doing the procedure in the office for a flat fee, we save approximately \$6,000 over what was charged when I was performing the operation in a hospital.

To set up a consultation, call Dr. Pavlov-Shapiro at (315) 458-6669 or (315) 478-4185.