



# Vasectomy



MARIE STOPES  
AUSTRALIA

## What are your contraceptive choices?

When it comes to contraceptive options for men, it's simple. There are two choices – wearing a condom or having a vasectomy.

Vasectomy is the only long-acting method of male contraception currently available, and it should be considered a permanent method, as there is no guarantee it can be reversed.

With a success rate of over 99%, it is a safe, simple, effective and ideal option for men who have completed their families or who don't want to have any children.

For more information, talk to us on [1300 003 707](tel:1300003707) or send us an online enquiry at [mariestopes.org.au](http://mariestopes.org.au).

## How does it work?

A vasectomy is a simple surgical procedure which closes off the sperm-carrying tubes to prevent sperm from getting out. Semen is still produced and ejaculated, but a few months after the procedure it becomes free of sperm.

Vasectomy usually only requires a local anaesthetic and then a very small incision is made in the front of the scrotum and the sperm-carrying tubes are cut and tied.

The procedure can usually be carried out in less than 30 minutes by a vasectomy specialist.

Once healed, a small scar remains on the scrotum, which becomes invisible over time.

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting on a red sofa in a living room. The woman is on the left, wearing a striped shirt and blue jeans, looking towards the man. The man is on the right, wearing a salmon-colored polo shirt and light-colored trousers, looking back at her. The background shows a typical living room with a fireplace, a plant, and some furniture.

**Vasectomy is the only permanent method of contraception currently available to men**

**It should always be considered a permanent option as there is no guarantee it can be reversed**

## Is vasectomy safe?

A vasectomy is a straightforward day procedure that involves closing off the small sperm carrying tubes (vas deferens) that are located in the scrotum. This blocks the flow of sperm from the testicles, so that when you ejaculate, the semen does not contain sperm.

No method of contraception is 100% effective but vasectomy is one of the most effective options available with a failure rate of much less than 0.1%.

Even though the possibility of complications occurring is minor, we will provide you with detailed information on them prior to your procedure.

If you have any questions or would like to book an appointment, visit [mariestopes.org.au](http://mariestopes.org.au) or call 1300 003 707.

## How much does it cost?

If you have a Medicare card, some of the cost will be covered by Medicare. There is, however, an out of pocket cost, as with most private medical treatments or day surgery procedures. The cost varies according to a number of factors, including:

- The facility you attend
- The type of anaesthetic preferred
- Whether you have private health insurance

If you have private health insurance, then you may be covered by your policy. You should contact your insurer directly for this information. For an accurate cost relevant to your circumstances, talk to us on 1300 003 707.

## When can you get back on the job?

You can usually be back at work after 1-2 days (depending on your job) and back to your usual sexual activity whenever you feel comfortable. Your sexual ability or enjoyment won't be affected – and yes, you will still ejaculate.

## Why Marie Stopes Australia?

Marie Stopes Australia is the only nationally accredited contraception and safe abortion provider giving Australian women and men real reproductive choices. We are a social enterprise that invests our profits in providing women across the world with access to family planning.

Our network of day surgery clinics provide tens of thousands of women and men each year with the highest standard in sexual and reproductive care, while our non-profit pharmaceutical company, MS Health, brings innovative sexual and reproductive health medicines to the Australian market.

## Our national support centre is open extended hours

**Monday to Thursday:** 7am-7pm

**Friday:** 7am-6pm

**Saturday:** 9am-5pm

**Sunday:** call back service

## 24-hour aftercare

Get immediately connected to the 24-hour aftercare nurse during or out of hours for free advice, or send us an online enquiry and we'll get back in touch the very next business day.

## We are accredited

All our day procedure facilities across Australia are independently accredited against the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. For more information, or to provide feedback about our services, visit [mariestopes.org.au/about-us/our-standards/](http://mariestopes.org.au/about-us/our-standards/).



Some of the 200 men who waited to have a vasectomy outside a Marie Stopes mobile clinic in PNG. Photo by Tom Greenwood.

## We're not-for-profit

Marie Stopes Australia is part of the Marie Stopes International partnership. Surplus proceeds from our centres are donated to help provide life-saving family planning services, including vasectomy, in developing countries like Papua New Guinea.

In the remote villages of PNG our Marie Stopes team provides access to long-term and permanent contraceptive methods like vasectomy.

Vasectomy has become a popular choice in the area, as maternal mortality is very high and because it is easy to perform and less invasive than tubal ligation. Being able to have fewer children means it's also much easier for men to support their families.

If you would like to help people in developing countries access vital family planning services like this, you can support our charity with a tax-deductible donation at [mariestopesinternational.org.au](http://mariestopesinternational.org.au).



# MARIE STOPES AUSTRALIA

## **Abortion**

Surgical abortion

Medical abortion in clinic

Medical abortion via teleconsult (tele-abortion)

Second trimester abortion

## **Contraception**

Long-acting reversible contraception

Emergency contraception

Tubal ligation (WA only)

Vasectomy

## **Support services**

Free decision-based counselling

24-hour nurse-led aftercare

Interpreter services available

**Call** 1300 003 707

**Visit** [mariestopes.org.au](http://mariestopes.org.au)

**Email** [info@mariestopes.org.au](mailto:info@mariestopes.org.au)