A vasectomy reversal is a surgical procedure designed to restore fertility in men who have previously undergone a vasectomy. During the procedure, a urologist reconnects the severed ends of the vas deferens—the tubes that carry sperm from the testicles—allowing sperm to once again be present in the ejaculate. This microsurgical technique is typically sought by men who have experienced a change in life circumstances, such as a new relationship or a renewed desire to have children. While success rates can vary depending on factors like time since the original vasectomy and overall reproductive health, many men are able to achieve natural conception following a successful reversal.

A vasectomy reversal surgery typically takes 2 to 4 hours to complete, depending on the complexity of the case and the specific technique used. The surgery offered by Midtown Urology is called **Vasovasostomy**, the reconnecting of the severed ends of the vas deferens.

The surgery is usually done under general anesthesia and is often an outpatient procedure, meaning you can go home the same day.

Post-Op Recovery:

- **Initial Recovery (first 1–2 weeks):**
  - Most men experience mild to moderate pain, swelling, and bruising in the scrotum.
  - You'll likely be advised to wear a scrotal support or snug underwear.
  - Ice packs and pain medications (over-the-counter or prescribed) help with discomfort.
  - No heavy lifting, vigorous activity, or sex for at least 2–3 weeks.
- **Follow-up & Monitoring:**
  - Your doctor will monitor healing and check for sperm in the ejaculate over the following weeks to months, often starting around 6–8 weeks post-op.
  - Multiple semen analyses are usually needed to assess the success of the reversal.
- **Long-Term:**
  - Full recovery can take a few weeks, but sperm may take several months to return—or longer, depending on the case.
  - Pregnancy rates vary but can range from 30% to over 90%, influenced by how long it's been since the vasectomy and the partner's fertility.

Success Rates

Success depends on a few key factors:

1. Time Since Vasectomy:

- **< 3 years:** 70–95% patency rate (sperm returns to semen), with pregnancy rates around 75%.
- **3–8 years:** ~65–75% success.
- **> 10 years:** Patency may drop to 30–50%, with pregnancy rates closer to 30–50%.

2. **Surgical Technique Used**: Vasovasostomy generally has a high success rate and If sperm are found in the vas deferens fluid during surgery, chances of success go up.

3. **Partner's Age and Fertility:** Female fertility naturally declines with age, especially after 35. Even with a successful reversal, this can impact the ability to conceive.

Physical Recovery

After the first couple weeks:

- Most men feel back to normal within 2–3 weeks.
- Light exercise can usually resume after 2 weeks; heavier lifting and sexual activity after 3–4 weeks, depending on your doctor's guidance.
- Scar tissue or minor discomfort can linger in some cases, but serious complications are rare.

Vasectomy Reversal Pre-Surgery Checklist

Medical Prep:

- Schedule a consultation with one of our **board-certified urologist** who specializes in microsurgery.
- Gather your medical records**,** including vasectomy details.
- Review your current medications with your doctor.
- Stop any blood thinners or anti-inflammatories (like aspirin/ibuprofen) if advised.
- Get a sperm banking consult if you want a backup fertility option during surgery.

Home Prep:

- Set up a recovery space (bed, recliner, ice packs, loose clothing).
- Wear supportive underwear or a scrotal support.
- Arrange for someone to drive you home and help for the first 24–48 hours.
- Plan to take 3–7 days off work depending on your job (more if it's physical).

Important Contact Information
Midtown Urology
911 W. 38th Street, Suite 200
(512) 451-7935 phone
(512) 451-7965 fax

If you need to reach the doctor after hours for an urgent matter, please call our office at 512-451-7935 and follow the prompts to be connected with the on-call provider.

- You may also go to Seton Main Emergency Room on 38th and N. Lamar. Please only go to this hospital as our physicians have privileges there.

  Hospital for Emergencies
  Seton Main Medical Center
  1201 W 38th St, Austin, TX 78705