

Patient Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Guarantor Name (if different): _____ Date completed: _____

Patient Education for Orchiectomy Surgery

Gender Affirming Surgical and Clinical Considerations

- Some transsexual, transgender, and gender non-conforming people choose to have surgery to treat severe gender dysphoria and others do not. This is a choice based on personal preferences and medical need.
- Surgery may have unexpected or unintended impact on gender dysphoria in some patients.
- Surgery is not required to make complete legal transition.

What is Orchiectomy Surgery?

- Orchiectomy removes both testes but does not remove scrotum, penis, or create a vagina.
- Orchiectomy reduces testosterone to typically female levels
- Anti-androgen medication therapy using spironolactone or other medications is equally as effective and safe (when carefully monitored by a medical provider) for most patients to reduce testosterone and is usually reversible
- It is advisable to postpone orchiectomy if vaginoplasty is planned within 12-18 months of the date for the planned orchiectomy to avoid excess surgery and allow time for full healing.

What is Aftercare for Orchiectomy Surgery like?

- Orchiectomy is usually done as a same day procedure. It is necessary to be accompanied home.
- Rest and apply ice packs for 24 hours after the surgery.
- Orchiectomy usually requires 4-6 days of recuperation before resuming regular activities.
- Avoid strenuous activity including sex for 2 weeks after the surgery.

What are the risks and possible complications of Orchiectomy Surgery?

- Effects of surgery are permanent and irreversible.
- Orchiectomy causes irreversible loss of fertility. This will cause permanent sterility.
- Cigarette smoking may interfere with wound healing and stopping smoking is highly recommended before surgery.
- Orchiectomy causes irreversible decrease in testosterone and therefore hormone therapy with estrogen or testosterone will be necessary to prevent osteoporosis.
- Low testosterone usually results in decreased libido although this is variable from individual to individual.
- Low testosterone may cause difficulty in getting or maintaining an erection

What are the limitations of Orchiectomy Surgery?

- It is possible to store sperm to preserve the possibility of having biological children after orchiectomy. This is usually not covered by health insurance and is not guaranteed to work.

All of the information on this form has been reviewed with me and I understand it and have had any questions answered.

Patient / Client Name and Signature

I have reviewed all of the information on this form with my patient /client and I am confident that my patient / client understands this information.

Provider Name and Signature