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Office Vasectomy under Local Anaesthesia (LA) in Hong Kong

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Introduction & Objectives

Office vasectomy is cost-effective, logistically simple, and provides a superior patient experience.

In Hong Kong, however, the procedure is predominantly provided by the Family Planning Association and is rarely performed in private clinics.

We therefore assessed its effectiveness, safety, and efficiency with a view to refining our clinical pathway.

Patients & Methods

We reviewed records of 283 men who attended pre-operative vasectomy consultations in 15 years from 2005 to 2020.

Results

Mode of vasectomy

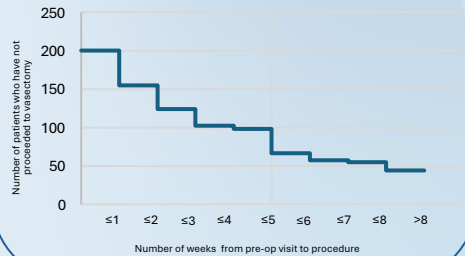
Of the 283 consultations, 212 men (74.9%) proceeded to vasectomy; 71 (25.1%) declined, citing fear of pain (22), indecision (25), or cost (2).

200 of the 212 procedures (94.3%) were completed in a procedure room of our private urology clinic. 10 men (4.7%) elected for general anaesthesia in hospital, some because of anxiety.

2 procedures were aborted due to contraindicating medication (1) and intravenous complication (1).

Time to procedures

The median interval from consultation to procedure was 4 weeks; 38.0% underwent vasectomy within 2 weeks.



Success rate

Post-vasectomy semen analysis at 14 weeks was performed.

Among the 200 patients that underwent office vasectomy, 197 (98.5%) were azoospermic; 2 had rare non-motile sperm.

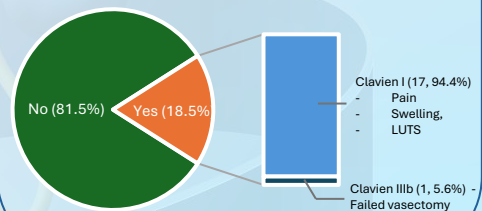
1 had persistent motile sperm, necessitating a repeat vasectomy.

Complications

37 of the 200 (18.5%) patients returned for more than one follow-up visit.

There were 17 Clavien I and 1 Clavien IIIb complications.

Additional post-op follow-up required?



Conclusion

Office LA vasectomy is safe with a high success rate and low long-term morbidity, making it a preferred option over the higher-cost GA hospital procedure.