

Varicocelelectomy

Dr. Stephen Lukasewycz



Open on
phone

WHAT IS THIS PROCEDURE?

A **varicocele** is a group of enlarged veins above the testicle, like varicose veins in the leg. It can cause aching, a smaller testicle or fertility problems.

Varicocelelectomy: through a small incision in the groin (inguinal), the surgeon ties off the enlarged veins while protecting the artery, which is found with a small Doppler probe.

Afterward: patients usually go home the same day.

KEY POINTS

- **Doppler probe and box in the room.**
- **Local injected by the surgeon after the prep:** 0.25% bupivacaine plain (no epinephrine), syringe with a 25 G 1½-inch needle.
- **Ask before opening sutures.**
- Dressing at the end: 2 packs of fluffs and a scrotal support.
- **No microscope.**

SUPPLIES

Open

- Minor pack, plastic set
- McCabe dissector, Westcott scissors, cerebellar retractors
- Cautery: both tips (needle tip and standard blade), smoke evacuation pencil
- Doppler probe
- Kittner dissectors, Weck-Cel spears
- 4-0 silk ties
- 0.25% bupivacaine plain, 30 mL; 10 mL syringe, 25 G 1½-inch needle
- Lap drape, blue towels
- Saline 500 mL
- Dressing: fluffs ×2 packs, scrotal support

Available in room, open only if asked

- Closure: 2-0 Vicryl SH, 3-0 Vicryl SH, 4-0 Monocryl PS-2
- Mini vessel loops

GLOVES

- 7.5.

ANESTHESIA

- General anesthesia, plus local by the surgeon.
- Perioperative antibiotics: cefazolin (Ancef) 2 g IV, unless contraindicated.

POSITIONING

- Supine.
- SCDs on.

PREP AND DRAPE

- Hair: the surgeon clips.
- Betadine scrub and paint: scrotum to umbilicus. Tuck a towel under the scrotum.
- Towels, then the lap drape.

CAUTERY

- Grounding pad on.
- 20/20. Both tips: needle tip and standard blade.