

About Your Surgery

Penile plication

This handout explains penile plication, which is surgery to correct a curved penis. If you have any questions before or after the operation, please call the Men's Health Center at 206-598-6358.

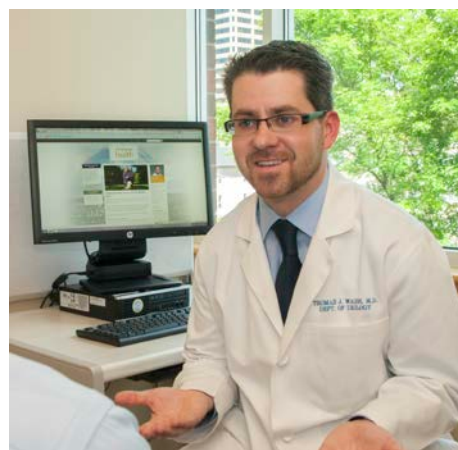
What is penile plication?

- *Penile plication* is surgery to straighten a curved penis.
- This procedure takes about 45 to 90 minutes. You will not stay overnight in the hospital.
- You must have a responsible adult drive you home after your surgery. You will not be allowed to drive yourself.
- If you are not circumcised and want to keep your foreskin, please talk with your doctor about this before surgery.

What happens during surgery?

During surgery, your doctor will:

- Inject a medicine called *papaverine* into your penis. This will cause an erection.
- Inject a small amount of *anesthetic* (numbing medicine) into your penis.
- Make an incision on your skin. This incision will be either vertical or a circumcision. The type of incision will depend on the angle of your penis during erection and your choice about circumcision (if you are not circumcised).
- Place 4 to 6 permanent stitches on the longer side of your penis. These stitches will shorten the longer side to match the other side. This will correct the curve.



Be sure to ask your doctor any questions you have about this surgery.

What happens after surgery?

- If your penis is still hard after your surgery, your doctor will inject *phenylephrine* into your penis to make it soft.
- You will be in the recovery room for 1 to 2 hours after the procedure. After that, you will be able to go home.
- You should be able to eat a few hours after surgery.

Self-care at Home

- You will receive a prescription for pain medicine to fill at a pharmacy.
- A cold pack will work better than pain medicine to ease pain after surgery. See our handout “What You Need to Know” for how to use a cold pack for the best results.
- Most men have painful erections at night after this surgery. Use a cold pack on your penis to ease the pain.
- You will need to change your bandage every day for 5 days. Your health care provider will show you how to do this.
- You will need to keep your penis dry for 2 days. If you want to take a shower, cover your penis with a condom.
- You should be able to go back to work within a few days.
- The stitches on your incision will dissolve in about 4 weeks.
- Avoid all sexual activity, including masturbation, for 4 to 6 weeks.

Side Effects or Complications

- You may have an allergic reaction to the anesthetic medicine.
- You may have a headache from the phenylephrine injection.
- Your penis may be numb near the incision. It may take several months for this numbness to go away.
- The skin over your penis and scrotum may be swollen or bruised (black and blue). You may also have some bleeding. This may take several weeks to go away.
- You may have some bumps where the permanent stitches are. These can be painful for several weeks or months. You may need several injections of steroid medicine to ease the pain.
- Your penis may be shorter or more narrow than it was before this surgery. This change is less than 1 cm (about $\frac{1}{3}$ inch) in 90% of men (90 out of 100).

- Your incision may become infected or pull open.
- Your penis may not be as hard during an erection. This occurs in less than 5% of patients (less than 5 out of 100).
- The curve in your penis may not be totally gone, or it may come back. This occurs in 5% of patients (5 out of 100).

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns.

Men's Health Center:
206-598-6358

Weekdays from 8 a.m. to
5 p.m.

After hours and on weekends
or holidays, call this same
number or go to the
Emergency Room.

For more information, visit
<http://depts.washington.edu/uroweb>.