

Vasectomy Reversal Success **Vasectomy Reversal Success Rates**

Vasectomy Reversal Success **With Vasectomy Reversal Specialist Dr. Turek, the vasectomy reversal success rate is 100%**, when moving sperm are found at the vas deferens during vasectomy reversal.

As one of the top experts in the field, Dr. Turek has written and published on the success rates of men who have had vasectomy reversal surgery.

With vasectomy reversal surgery, there are **two success rates to consider**:

- 1. Patency Rate** - Return of moving sperm to the ejaculate after vasectomy reversal and
- 2. Pregnancy Rate** - The successful attempt to have a baby.

Dr. Turek's Vasectomy Reversal Success Rates

Dr. Turek's expertise and success in vasectomy reversal procedures is unparalleled in his field as his published success rates show.

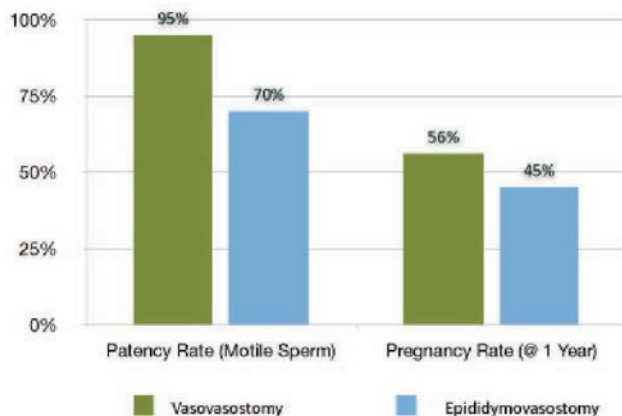


FIGURE 1. Dr. Turek's overall rates of patency and natural pregnancy (at 1 year) from his vasectomy reversal series. Note: VV means vasovasostomy and EV means epididymovasostomy.

success rates, please select one of the following topics. If you are ready to schedule a consultation for your vasectomy reversal, please [request a consultation here](#).

Patency Success Rate

The patency success rate is the success rate that best reflects the **surgical decision-making knowledge and skill** during vasectomy reversal, and should be considered carefully when **evaluating a microsurgeon**. Dr. Turek has advocated in his research publications that patency rate be should be defined by all surgeons as the presence of moving or motile sperm (not just dead) sperm in the ejaculate after vasectomy reversal. This is because dead or non-moving sperm could simply be "wash out" of old sperm in the system and therefore may not indicate that the system is actually "patent" or working after vasectomy reversal. In addition, since only motile sperm will lead to pregnancy, this measure makes the most sense to assess. Be sure to ask your surgeon exactly how he measures patency rate after vasectomy reversal.

FIGURE 2. PERCENT OF PATIENTS ACHIEVING MOVING SPERM IN THE EJACULATE (PATENCY) AFTER DR. TUREK'S VASECTOMY REVERSAL (N=120 CASES). VV = VASOVASOSTOMY ON BOTH SIDES; VV/EV=ONE SIDE VASOVASOSTOMY AND ONE SIDE EPIDIDYMOVASOSTOMY AND EV/EV=BOTH SIDES EPIDIDYMOVASOSTOMY. DATA FROM YANG ET AL, J UROL, 177: 2272-6, 2007.

Schedule Consultation



Get expert advice with a consultation for vasectomy reversal at The Turek Clinic.

As Seen On:



Visit Dr. Turek's Blog



Read [blog entries](#) from the expert himself. About his work, his interests and current

events related to vasectomy and vasectomy reversals.

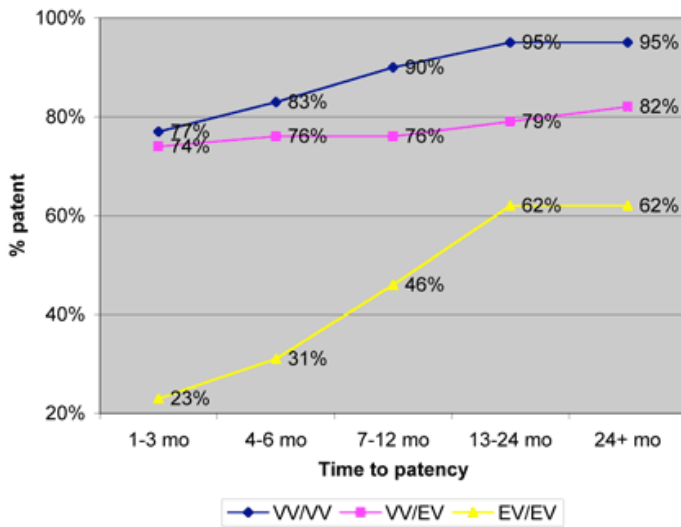


Figure 2 illustrates the fraction of men who achieved motile sperm in the ejaculate (the strictest patency success rate measure) in Dr. Turek's recent vasectomy reversal case series. Notably, 95% of men with a **vasovasostomy** show motile sperm in the ejaculate within 1 year after vasectomy reversal. Interestingly, almost **80% of these men achieve**

motile within 3 months of vasectomy reversal.

The vasectomy reversal rate for **epididymovasostomy** is different, however, for several reasons. First, fewer men with eventually achieve motile sperm counts (62%) and the time to achieve motile sperm counts after epididymovasostomy takes longer than it does for **vasovasostomy**. This vasectomy reversal rate likely reflects the natural biology of recovery from long term obstruction after vasectomy reversal.

Quality of Vasectomy Reversal Success Rates

To get a better sense of the true quality of Dr. Turek's procedural skills, it helps to look at the success rates in the best possible setting—when moving sperm are found at the testis vas deferens during vasectomy reversal. Dr. Turek's vasectomy reversal rates in this setting are illustrated in Figure 3. Notably, **when moving sperm are found at the vas deferens during vasectomy reversal, 100% of Dr. Turek's patients have successful patency (motile sperm) within one year** after vasectomy reversal. When non-motile sperm are found, **Dr. Turek's patency success rate is 94% at 1 year** after vasectomy reversal. Dr. Turek has also published that:

The **age of the patient at the time of vasectomy reversal matters little** to patency success rates. Using different age cut-offs, including <35, 36-45, and > 45 years old, no differences in patency success rates were detected after his vasectomy reversal.

If the vasectomy is ≤ 8 years old, then there is a **faster return of motile sperm** to the ejaculate after vasectomy reversal compared to older vasectomies. At the end of 1 year, however, the overall patency success rates after vasectomy reversal, however, did not differ between these groups.

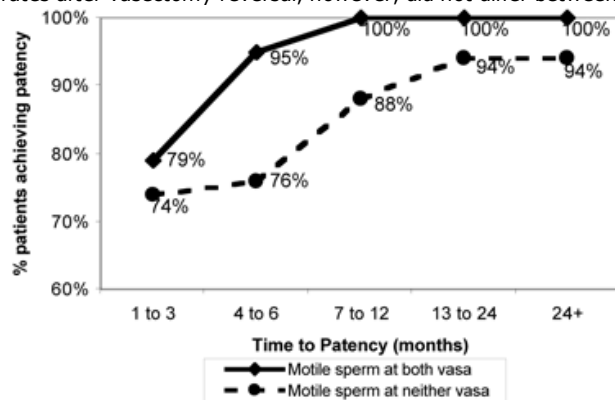


FIGURE 3. PERCENT OF PATIENTS ACHIEVING MOVING SPERM IN THE EJACULATE (PATENCY) AFTER DR. TUREK'S VASOVASOSTOMY (N=150 CASES). DATA FROM: YANG ET AL. J UROL. 177: 2272-6, 2007.

Another issue to consider is the **likelihood of epididymovasostomy during reverse vasectomy**, as this technique is generally associated with **lower patency success and pregnancy rates** than **vasovasostomy**.

From Dr. Turek's experience the **chance of needing an epididymovasostomy is 3%/year for every year after 5 years of vasectomy age**. Thus, a 10 year old vasectomy has a $5 \times 3\% = 15\%$ chance of needing an epididymovasostomy. A 20 year old vasectomy has a $15 \times 3\% = 45\%$ chance of epididymovasostomy (**details on his published study**). This likelihood does not differ with men's age, as is illustrated in Figure 4 below (n=174 patients):

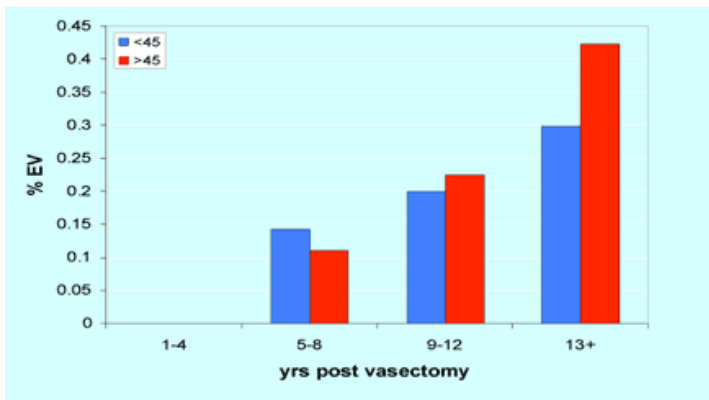


FIGURE 4.
PERCENT OF PATIENTS NEEDING AN EPIDIDYMOVASOSTOMY IN DR. TUREK'S SERIES (N=174 CASES). EV=EPIDIDYMOVASOSTOMY; BLUE BARS INDICATE MEN <45 YEARS OLD; RED BARS ARE MEN > 45 YEARS OLD.

Dr. Turek's Pregnancy Success Rates

The **pregnancy success rates** after vasectomy reversal depend not only on the patency rate, but also on known or unknown female factor issues, including **female age**. Among Dr. Turek's couples, the average female age in a case series analysis was 35.5 years and the average interval from vasectomy to vasectomy reversal was 13.5 years. Among men with vasovasostomies on both sides, **56% of partners became pregnant within 1 year of vasectomy reversal**. Among men with a vasovasostomy on one side and epididymovasostomy on the other side, 52% achieved a pregnancy within 1 year, and among men with epididymovasostomy on both sides, 40% achieved a pregnancy by 1 year after vasectomy reversal. Importantly, these rates did not include pregnancies that occurred after the first year, which if included would make these rates even higher. Also, these pregnancy success rates are impressive given the **age of the vasectomies in Dr. Turek's published series** and the relatively advanced maternal age of the female partners. What Dr. Turek has observed is that most pregnancies after vasovasostomy tend to occur in the first year after vasectomy reversal and **many pregnancies after epididymovasostomy occur between years 1 and 2 after vasectomy reversal**. This is helpful information for couples as they plan their family building goals after vasectomy reversal.

Dr. Turek has an international reputation as a fellowship-trained microsurgeon and **performs vasectomy reversals on a regular basis**. His experience with the technique is published, as are several innovations that he has described. He has **trained over 50 urology residents, fellows and practicing urologists** around the world in this technique. In Dr. Turek's practice, 40% of the patients he sees have a second obstruction that requires bypassing (**epididymovasostomy**) and 25% of his cases are patients who have **failed previous vasectomy reversals** with other surgeons. Most of his cases are referred by urologists who do not feel comfortable performing a vasectomy reversal on men with older vasectomies because of the high likelihood that an epididymovasostomy will be required. Dr. Turek is also comfortable tackling men with traumatic, infectious or congenital conditions that require microsurgery. Because of this experience, and his skill as a master surgeon, his complication rates are extremely low and his success rates are very high.

Another way Dr. Turek measures the success of his vasectomy reversals is the happiness of the families that he helped to create: **Vasectomy Reversal Patient Stories**

Contact Dr. Turek about Vasectomy Reversal

What patients say about Dr. Turek:

"He makes you feel at ease and gives you confidence not with fancy words or throwing out some nationwide success numbers. But confidence because you know when you walk out of his office he is the best."

- Michael W, San Jose, CA

Last updated: October 16, 2011