



Cancer treatments can cause changes to a man's fertility and sexuality. It's important to talk with your provider to learn what to expect before starting treatment.

Side Effects - **Sexual and fertility problems (men)**

Many cancer treatments and some types of cancer can cause sexual and fertility-related side effects. Whether you have these problems depend on the type of treatment(s) you receive, your age at time of treatment and how long since treatment.

Before starting treatment talk with your health care team about:

- **Sexual activity.** Ask if it is okay for you to be sexually active during your treatment.
- **Infertility.** Ask if your treatment could affect your fertility or make you infertile. If you would like to have children after treatment, talk with your provider or nurse before you start treatment. Learn ahead of time about your options, such as sperm banking. Procedures such as testicular sperm extraction, testicular tissue freezing and testicular tissue cryopreservation (for young boys) are available.
- **Birth control.** It is important to prevent pregnancy during treatment and for some time after treatment. Ask about different methods of birth control.
- **Condom use.** If you receive chemotherapy you will most likely be advised to use a condom during intercourse, even if your partner is on birth control or cannot have children. This is because your semen may have traces of chemotherapy drugs.

Talk with your health care team

Sexual and sexuality-related questions

- What problems or changes might I have during or after treatment?
- How long might these problems last? Will any of these problems be permanent?
- How can these problems be treated or managed?
- Could you give me the name of a specialist who I can talk with to learn more?
- What precautions do I need to take during treatment?
- Is there a support group for men that you would recommend for me?

Fertility-related questions

- Will the treatment I receive make me infertile (unable to have children in the future)?
- What are my options now if I would like to have children in the future?
- Could you give me the name of a fertility specialist who I can talk with to learn more?
- After treatment, how long should I use some method of birth control?