

Penile Implant Surgery for Erectile Dysfunction

Penile implants can safely help you create a firm erection that can be used for sexual activity. You will need surgery to put a penile implant in your body. Before choosing penile implants, you will need to understand what surgery involves, including possible risks, complications, and follow-up care.

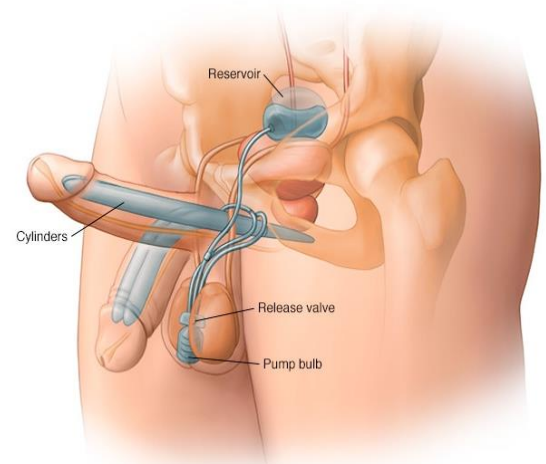
When to Consider a Penile Implant?

A penile implant may be a good choice if you cannot form a firm erection using pills, penile injections, or vacuum devices. Penile implants can also be used to treat serious cases of “Peyronie's Disease”, which is a condition that causes scarring inside the penis, leading to curved, painful erections.

Types of Penile Implants:

Inflatable Implant

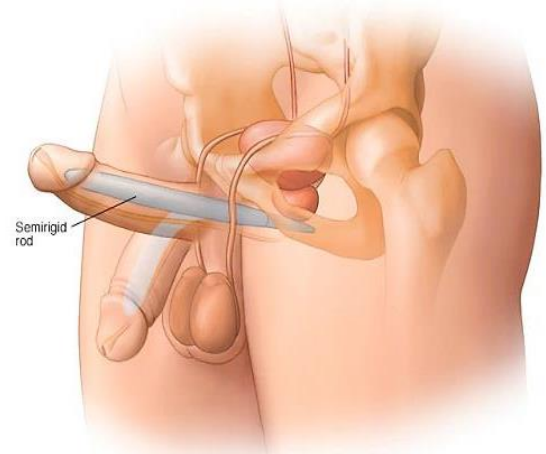
The three-piece inflatable (pump-up) implant is the most common form of penile implant. It includes 2 inflatable cylinders (tubes) that are placed within the penis, a pump that is placed in the same area as the testicles, and a fluid reservoir (pouch) that is placed within the pelvis under the stomach muscles. To form an erection, the pump is squeezed with your hand, which then moves fluid from the reservoir into the cylinders within the penis. This results in a firm erection. Your erection will stay until the ‘deflate’ button is pressed to allow the fluid to move out of the cylinders and back into the reservoir.



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Malleable Implant

Malleable (flexible) implants involve putting two cylinders into the penis. The implant materials are firm, yet allow the penis to bend. You will be able to point the penis down for day-to-day activity, or bend it upwards for sexual activity.



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Risks and Complications:

- **Infection** - As with any surgery, infection is possible. Your surgical team will do everything possible to prevent infection.
- **Scrotal hematoma** - Bleeding in the scrotum (area around the testicles) can sometimes cause a lot of swelling. If there is swelling, you should tell your doctor because you may need a second surgery, which is rare.
- **Injury to the urethra (pee tube), bladder, bowel, or major blood vessels** – These are rare and can be serious.
- **Implant problems** - Penile implants usually work well, yet in rare cases the implants do not work properly. Surgery may be needed to remove, repair, or replace a broken implant.
- **Erosion** – This is when an implant breaks through the skin from inside the penis. This is a rare event.

Follow-up Care:

Your penis will likely be swollen and bruised for several weeks after surgery. You may be able to restart physical and sexual activity about four to six weeks after surgery. At this time, your doctor will show you how to inflate and deflate the implant. Your doctor will tell you how often you will need to inflate and deflate your implant to keep it working well. It is important to talk to your doctor about what is best for your recovery.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Penile implants will not make your penis longer. The best guess of how long the erect penis will be after the procedure is to pull the head of your penis away from your body.
- The head of the penis will likely be softer than it is with a natural erection. This is because the cylinders do not go into the head of the penis.
- Penile implant surgery is a permanent treatment. Removal of the device is possible; however, you will no longer be able to create an erection naturally because of the changes in your penis.
- Penile implant surgery takes about an hour. You will be given a drug to put you to sleep during the surgery.
- The penile implant does not usually change your ability to pee.

Overall, 85-95% of individuals and their partners report being happy with a penile implant. Ten years after having the surgery, around 60-80% of individuals are still using their implant. If you are interested in penile implant surgery, it is important to talk about this with a urologist who does penile implant surgery.