

HYDROCELE, SPEMATOCELE OR OTHER SCROTAL SURGERY

1. The scrotum is loose tissue and tends to swell significantly after any surgery. It is important to ice the area for the first 48 hours – Many patients will be discharged home with a scrotal support in place – this will be packed full of gauze. You can place the ice inside the support (or other tight-fitting underwear) but on the gauze layer – use ice 30 minutes on and 30 minutes off while awake.
2. If a scrotal drain has been placed at the time of surgery, there will be significant amounts of drainage into the gauze – this is **NORMAL** and is the purpose of the drain. It will usually only be left in place for 1-2 days (follow your physician's instructions on when to come have the drain removed). On some occasions, you will be instructed on how and when to remove it yourself.
3. It is **VERY COMMON** for the scrotum to remain swollen and firm for several weeks following any scrotal surgery.
4. Stitches used to close the scrotal skin are usually dissolvable on their own. It is not uncommon for a small area to dissolve prior to complete skin healing. This results in a small opening in the skin – if this occurs, it is **NOT** dangerous. It is also common to see some yellow exudate in the separated skin edges. This is also not dangerous and is different than pus which tends to flow out of the wound. You can use hydrogen peroxide on a Q-tip to the affected area twice daily. If this does not promote wound healing after a few days, contact the office.
5. Physical restrictions:
 - Avoid lifting > 15 lbs x 2-3 weeks
 - Ok to shower 48 hours post-op
 - Wait 2 weeks to submerge area (i.e. swimming)
5. Warning signs:
 - Pus flowing from the wound
 - Scrotum swollen and tense to the degree that you cannot see scrotal folds any longer.
 - Shaking chills and/or fever >101.5F