STERILIZATION (VASECTOMY/TUBAL LIGATION) COUNSELING: If you are considering permanently ending your ability to have children you should carefully consider your age, the stability of your ongoing relationship and the number of living children you have. You should be aware of your Birth Control Options including pills, shots, implants, condoms and diaphragms. It should be clear to you that all procedures cannot be guaranteed and have predictable failure rates of up to 1 percent and such failures may be either inside or outside the uterus (ectopic).

DANGERS TO A WOMAN: When a woman is sterilized, she is generally put to sleep thus exposing her to the risks of general anesthesia. Her abdomen must be entered and therefore female sterilization involves risk of bowel injury including possible colostomy (a bag to collect feces), and larger, delayed procedures to correct the injury. Also because of the nearness of large blood vessels, female sterilization involves a much greater risk of heavy bleeding and blood transfusion. Women should know that occasional psychologic reactions occur and the fact that some women have depression, anxiety and feelings of regret following female sterilization. Some women (about 15%) report problems with pelvic pain and irregular menstrual flow following tubal ligation. Some couples feel that since the woman did the work of childbirth there is a sort of "fairness" to the husband offering to undergo vasectomy.

THEREFORE: Because of safety, comfort and cost many couples choose male sterilization (vasectomy) instead of tubal ligation.

MALE STERILIZATION: Is equally effective, clearly safer, faster, and less expensive. The husband should at least speak with a Urologist before a woman is sterilized. After you have carefully considered sterilization and are aware of your options, risks, benefits, failure rate, and consequences of the procedure AND have had an opportunity to ask questions and receive satisfactory answers THEN it may be appropriate to proceed with scheduling. You must be willing to accept the intended permanence of the procedure and the fact that attempts at reversal involve a much more extensive and expensive procedure that is not always successful. Please request a pamphlet on the subject of Vasectomy and Tubal Ligation if you wish more than the information above. Also visit our website www.myobgyn.net and look under the contraception heading for more information on the subject of vasectomy.

LOCAL (VIRGINIA BEACH/NORFOLK) UROLOGISTS:

Steven Warden M.D. Urologist.

Address: 1004 First Colonial Rd. Suite #101. (Near Virginia General Hospital)

Office Phone: 481-9402.

Greg Eure M.D. - Devine Tidewater Urology(Urology Group).
Address: 1080 First Colonial Road, Suite 307. (Near Virginia General Hospital)

Office Phone: 481-3556

Warren Pechan M.D. Urologist

Address: 1856 Colonial Medical #B (Near Virginia General Hospital)

Office Phone: 481-9009.

Abraham Mahini M.D. Urologist

Address: 700 Independence Circle (Bayside Area)

Office Phone: 499-8855.

Steven Schlossberg M.D. Urologist

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