

Editorial

Surgical treatment options in the field of fertility problems of the male can be provided by urologists, especially for cases of obstructive azoospermia. In these cases, reconstructive microsurgery may successfully restore fertility. Sperm retrieval may be indicated in the obstructive situation in cases where reconstruction seems not to be possible. A major indication of sperm retrieval, and this seems to be one of the major breakthroughs for operative andrology, is the management of men with testicular failures (testicular azoospermia). In these men ICSI with the retrieved testicular sperms provides a calculable chance to father a child. Concerning other operative andrological techniques, transurethral resection of the ejaculatory ducts, sperm retrieval from the vas deferens and microsurgical varicocele dissection have to be mentioned in this context. Especially the treatment of varicoceles in cases, considered as a major andrological factor in an infertile partnership, remains an ongoing matter of debate for operative andrology.

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