



# Varicocele?

*Embolization  
for the treatment of  
testicular varicoceles*



**PrecisionIR**

A Division of Michigan Healthcare Professionals, P.C.

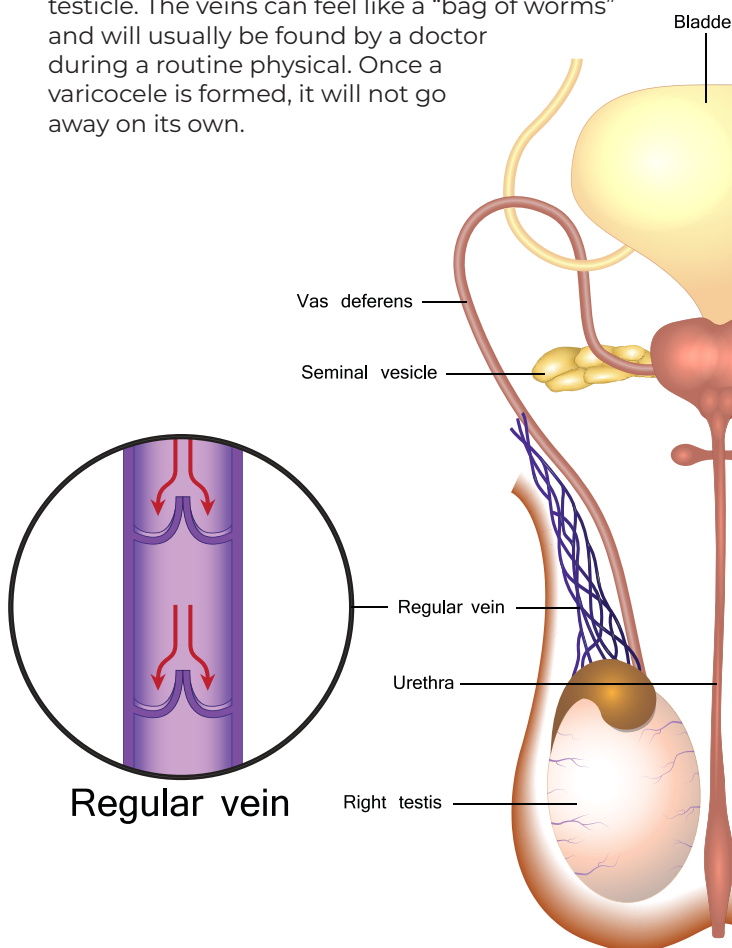
MINIMALLY INVASIVE VASCULAR AND  
INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY SPECIALISTS

# What is a varicocele?

A varicocele is caused by one or more faulty valves within the veins in the scrotum. This causes blood to flow in reverse and “pool” within the veins. The veins become enlarged, forming a bulge, or varicocele.

Most men with a varicocele do not experience any symptoms. However, as many as 40% of men with decreased fertility have a varicocele. It is thought that the additional blood raises the temperature in the testicle, which negatively affects sperm quality and count.

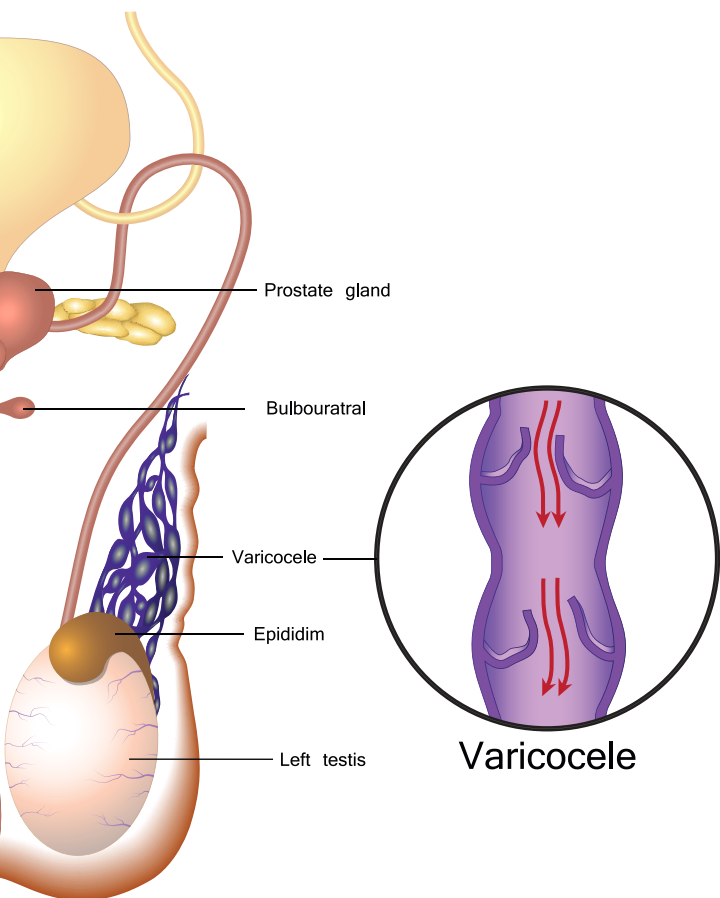
Varicoceles are most common within the left testicle. The veins can feel like a “bag of worms” and will usually be found by a doctor during a routine physical. Once a varicocele is formed, it will not go away on its own.



## Treatment options

Men without symptoms do not need to treat this condition. However, those experiencing pain, infertility or testicular shrinkage may benefit from treatment. In addition, it is recommended that adolescents treat a varicocele to avoid future infertility.

Varicocele embolization is a minimally invasive outpatient procedure to treat varicoceles. It is highly effective, requires no hospital stay and the patient can return to normal activities in 2-3 days. It is an excellent alternative to open surgery. As varicoceles may return over time, it is safe to repeat this procedure, and it is appropriate to have it even if the patient has had surgery in the past.





## How do I know if varicocele embolization is right for me?

This procedure is recommended for patients who have an enlarged varicocele, and one or more of the following:

- Are experiencing a dull ache or pain, especially while standing
- Do not want to experience infertility issues
- Have shrinking of one or both testicles
- Do not wish to have surgery to treat a varicocele



## The embolization procedure

Varicocele embolization is performed by an interventional radiologist who inserts a tiny catheter into a vein in the groin or neck, using x-ray imaging to guide it through the body's blood vessels to the veins within the testicle. Tiny coils or other embolic materials are then inserted into the vein to block the flow of blood, causing the vein to shrink and eventually disappear. The body reroutes blood through other healthy veins in the testicle.

The procedure has a high success rate, comparable to open surgery, with a 90% effectiveness. Patients can typically resume sexual activity the day after embolization, but it may take 3-6 months for sperm count to improve.

### Potential side effects

Varicocele embolization should only be performed by a trained and experienced interventional radiologist. Complications with this procedure are rare, and can include infection at the catheter insertion site, and transient testicular pain.

### Talk to your doctor

Varicocele embolization is an effective and less invasive option to treat varicoceles, performed by the experienced doctors at PrecisionIR. If the symptoms of varicocele are keeping you from living your best life, call us to make an appointment or share this brochure with your doctor. We'll work with all members of your care team to find the treatment that is right for you.



S. Andrew Vartanian, M.D.



Michael Savin, M.D.

## PrecisionIR

Interventional radiology (IR) represents an exciting new frontier in disease and pain treatment. Today's IR therapies are more precise, less invasive and more effective than ever... giving you and your doctor additional options to treat disease and restore you to optimal health.

At PrecisionIR, we use the body's vascular system-along with state-of-the-art imaging guidance to reach the source of the problem and deliver precisely targeted therapy. By utilizing embolization techniques, we can treat uterine fibroids, enlarged prostate, knee pain from osteoarthritis, chronic hemorrhoids, and other health conditions faster, less expensively and with greater safety and accuracy than ever before.

All procedures are performed at our state-of-the-art treatment center, offering a more comfortable, non-hospital environment, lower risk of infection and a lower overall cost for patients. We also offer fast, flexible scheduling, less waiting and easy access including free valet parking.



To learn more, visit  
[MyPrecisionIR.com](http://MyPrecisionIR.com)



**PrecisionIR**

A Division of Michigan Healthcare Professionals, P.C.

MINIMALLY INVASIVE VASCULAR AND  
INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY SPECIALISTS

32255 Northwestern Highway, Suite 135

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

P: 947-228-5500 | F: 947-228-5501 | [MyPrecisionIR.com](http://MyPrecisionIR.com)