**Introduction:**

Radical orchiectomy is the surgical removal of the testicle for suspected testicular cancer. The procedure is done under a general anesthetic, takes less than an hour, and is done through a small groin incision. Patients are typically discharged home later the same day. A testicular prosthesis can be inserted at the time of orchiectomy, although many patients decline this option.

**Side effects and potential risks:**

Fertility may be impacted by testicular cancer treatment. If you may wish to father children in the future, consider sperm banking before orchiectomy.

Testosterone levels usually remain normal after orchiectomy but could be low if your remaining testicle is abnormal or absent.

Some bruising and discomfort in the incision and/or scrotum is common for up to a week after surgery. Significant bleeding resulting in a scrotal hematoma, or blood accumulation in the scrotum, is rare. Wearing tight underwear or scrotal support garments may reduce this risk.

There is a low risk of chronic pain or numbness of the groin or scrotum.

**Discharge instructions:**

Men are discharged, usually on the same day, with a prescription for a painkiller. You should avoid strenuous activity or heavy lifting for 6 weeks. You should wear tight underwear or scrotal support garments/jock straps for the first few weeks.

Time off work varies depending on your job, but men can generally resume non-strenuous work after 2 weeks.

If you were instructed to hold blood thinners for the procedure, your physician will instruct you as to when they can be resumed (typically within a few days of surgery).

**Questions?:**

It is important that you are fully informed and have had all your questions answered prior to the procedure. If you have any questions or concerns at any time either before or after the procedure, please discuss with us.