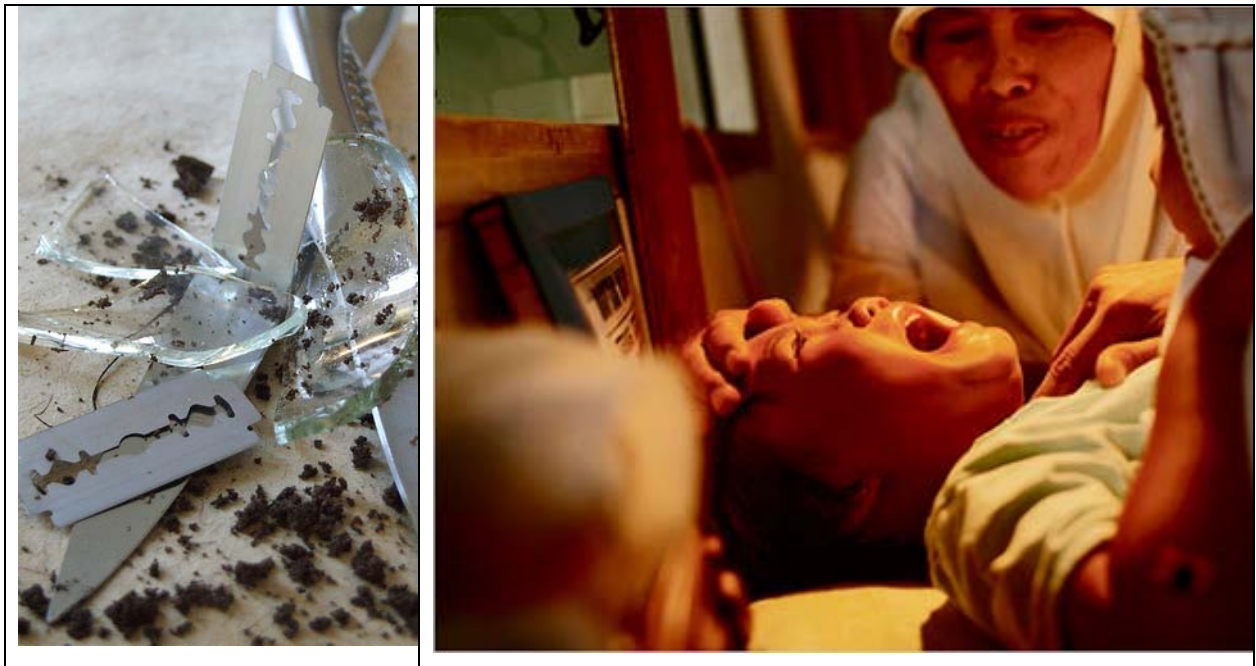


Male to Eunuch Castration

Castration (also referred to as: gelding, spaying, neutering, fixing, orchiectomy, oophorectomy) is any action, surgical, chemical, or otherwise, by which a male loses the functions of the testicles or a female loses the functions of the ovaries. In ancient times, castration often involved the total removal of all male genitalia. This involved great danger of death due to bleeding or infection. Removal of only the testicles had much less risk.

The practice of castration has its roots before recorded human history. Castrated men — eunuchs — were often admitted to special social classes and were used to staff bureaucracies and palace households, as already mentioned. Castration also figured in a number of religious cults. Some religions, for example Judaism, were strongly opposed to the practice. This faith excludes eunuchs or any males with defective genitals from priesthood, just as castrated animals are excluded from sacrifice. This practice has been almost discontinued in India now.



Types of Castration

a) Chemical Castration

In the case of chemical castration, regular injections of anti-androgens are administered to the person undergoing the procedure. Chemical castration seems to have a greater effect on bone density than physical castration. Since the development of teriparatide, this severe bone loss has been reversed in nearly every case. At this time there is a limitation on the use of this medication to 24 months until the long-term use is better evaluated.

b) Surgical Castration

This is normally done by quacks but this can also be performed by a doctor (see MtF and FtM GRS). A very sharp knife or razor (*ustara/rapi*) is used. The environment is unhygienic. The high immunity levels of the patients help them escape infection. In one stroke the penis and testes are chopped off. A lot of blood gushes forth. Hot sesame oil is applied to the wound, to prevent infection.

From the severed organs, blood oozes out profusely. The testes shrink to 75-80% whereas the penis shrinks to 10% of the original size. A penis of erect length of 7 inches and morbid length of 3 inches becomes a 1 inch flesh piece in less than a minute after being chopped off. The two testes remain joined to the penis in one piece. The operation causes immense pain. The new eunuch bears this pain as '*prasad*'. By bearing the pain, they are always happy with their achievement.

c) Horse hair castration

In ancient times, the processes used for castration was to tie up the penis and scrotal sac tightly with a hair from a horse's tail. This would in effect, stop blood supply to these parts and thus, they would degenerate and fall off. The process was very painful and long in duration but slaves in those days did not have a choice of surgical remedies like today. The only anaesthesia used was opium, which was plentiful in supply and freely available.

With the advent of chemical castration, surgical castration is not generally recommended by the medical community unless medically necessary or desired.

Reasons for Supporting Castration

1. Medical Reasons for Castration

The common belief is, castration is carried out generally as a religious procedure, but there are some medical conditions where castration is necessary for the treatment of the disease. Testicular cancer is generally treated by surgical removal of the cancerous testicle(s) by orchiectomy, often followed by radiation or chemotherapy. Unless both testicles are cancerous, only one is removed.

Either surgical removal of both testicles or chemical castration may be carried out in the case of prostate cancer as hormone testosterone depletion treatment to slow down the progression of cancer. Similarly, testosterone-depletion treatment is used to greatly reduce sexual drive or interest in those with high sexual drives, obsessions, behavior or any combination of those that may be considered deviant.

2. Castration as Punishment

In ancient times after battles, winners castrated their captives or the corpses of the defeated to symbolise their victory in some cases and "seize" their power. The practice was used by the winning side to torture or demoralize their enemies. It was also employed to extinguish opposing male lineages and thus allow the victor to sexually possess the defeated group's women. Also, in some countries, castration involving removal of all male genitalia was seen as the same as a death sentence.

3. Castration as a preventive measure

Castration has been in practice in many countries as a voluntary option for the people who have broken laws of a sexual nature, allowing them to return to the community from otherwise lengthy detentions.

A *temporary* chemical castration had been studied and developed as a preventive measure and punishment for several repeated sex crimes, such as rape or other sexually related violence.

Physical castration appears to be highly effective as, historically; it has resulted in a 20-year re-offense rate of less than 2.3% vs. 80% in the untreated control group.

4. Other reasons

Castration in humans has been proposed and sometimes used, as a method of birth control in certain poorer regions.

Male-to-female transsexuals often undergo orchiectomy, as do some other transgendered people. Orchiectomy may be performed as a part of more general sex reassignment surgery, either before or during other procedures but it may also be performed on someone who does not desire or cannot afford, further surgery.

Analysis of the feelings of the people desiring to go for Castration

The author used an internet survey to explore the motivation of men who have been or are interested in being castrated. Out of 143 respondents, 25 (17%) reported already having been castrated. The 112 (78%) individuals who said they had not been castrated were asked why they wanted to be castrated and why they had not actualized that desire. They were given multiple-choice answers to select from. The major reason (selected by 40% of respondents) for desiring castration was to achieve a 'eunuch-like calm' and freedom from sexual urges; however, a large proportion (~30%) of respondents found fantasies about being castrated sexually exciting and a similar percentage desired castration for the 'cosmetic' appearance it achieved. This high interest in castration as either a sexual stimulus or a cosmetic enhancement was unexpected and contrasted with the more classically stated motivation for voluntary castration in the psychiatric literature, i.e., libido control and transsexualism. Internet discussion groups that serve these men may encourage them to act out their castration fantasies. Alternately, Internet discussions may give them a displacement outlet for their

fantasies and decrease the risk of castration by non-medically qualified 'street-cutters' or by self-mutilation. Forty percent of the respondents claimed that they would have an orchiectomy, if it were cheap, safe, and simple. A quarter wanted to try chemical castration first, but 40% were embarrassed to talk to their doctors about their interest in castration. Information now available on the Internet provides these men with increasingly easy access to street-cutters and directions on how to perform surgical castrations, putting them at risk of permanent injury and disability. Physicians need to be aware of these risks.

Medical Consequences of Castration

A subject of castration who is altered before the onset of puberty will retain a high voice, non-muscular build, and small genitals. He may well be taller than average, as the production of sex hormones in puberty—particularly testosterone—stops long bone growth. The person may not develop pubic hair and will have a small sex drive or none at all. Castrations after the onset of puberty will typically reduce the sex drive considerably or eliminate it altogether. Also castrated people are automatically sterile, because the testes (for males) and ovaries (for females) produce sex cells needed for reproduction. Once removed the subject becomes infertile. The voice does not change. Some castrates report mood changes, such as depression or a more serene outlook on life. Body strength and muscle mass can decrease somewhat. Body hair sometimes may decrease. Castration prevents male pattern baldness if it is done before hair is lost. However, it will not restore hair growth after hair has already been lost due to male pattern baldness. Castration also eliminates the risk of testicular cancer.

Historically, eunuchs who additionally underwent a penectomy reportedly suffered from urinary incontinence associated with the removal of the penis.

Without Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT), castrates may feel the typical symptoms similar to those experienced by menopausal women for example hot flashes; gradual bone-density loss, resulting in osteopenia or osteoporosis; potential weight gain or redistribution of body fat to the hips/chest etc. Replacement of testosterone in the

form of gel, patches, or injections can largely reverse these effects, although breast enlargement has also been reported as a possible side effect of testosterone usage.

Castration in Veterinary Practice

Domestic animals are usually castrated to avoid unwanted or uncontrolled reproduction; to reduce or prevent other manifestations of sexual behaviour such as territorial behaviour or aggression (e.g. fighting between groups of entire (uncastrated) males of a species), such as boundary/fence/enclosure destruction when attempting to get to nearby females of the species.

Male horses are usually castrated (gelded) using emasculators, because stallions are rather aggressive and troublesome. The same applies to male mules, although they are sterile. Male cattle are castrated to improve muscling and docility for use as oxen.

Livestock may be castrated when used for food to increase growth or weight or both of individual male animals and because of the undesirable taste and odor of the meat from sexually mature ones. In domestic pigs the taint is caused by androstenone and skatole concentrations stored in the fat tissues of the animal after sexual maturity. It is released when the fat is heated and has a distinct odor and flavor that is widely considered unpalatable to consumers. Consequently, in commercial meat production, male pigs are either castrated shortly after birth or slaughtered before they reach sexual maturity. This is due to many breeds of pigs simply not having the heredity for the boar taint and the fact that pigs are normally slaughtered at a young market weight.^[22]

In the case of pets, castration is usually called neutering, and is encouraged to prevent overpopulation of the community by unwanted animals, and to reduced certain diseases such as prostate disease and testicular cancer in male dogs (oophorectomy in female pets is often called spaying). Testicular cancer is rare in dogs, but prostate problems are somewhat common in unaltered male dogs when they get older. Neutered individuals have a much lower risk of developing prostate problems in comparison. Unaltered male cats are more likely to develop an obstruction in their urethra, preventing them from urinating to some degree; however neutering does not seem to

make much difference statistically because many neutered tomcats also have the problem.

A specialized vocabulary has arisen for neutered animals of given species:

- Barrow (pig)
- Bullock (cattle) - Incompletely castrated male horses or cattle are known as *rigs*
- Capon (chicken)
- Gelding (horse)
- Gib (cat, ferret)
- Neutered (dog)
- Ox (cattle)
- Stag (cattle, sheep)
- Steer (cattle)
- Wether (sheep, goat)

How is veterinary castration done?

Veterinary castration involves the use of an elastrator tool to secure a band around the testicles that disrupts the blood supply and the use of a Burdizzo tool or emasculators to crush the spermatic cords and disrupt the blood supply, pharmacological injections and implants and immunological techniques to inoculate the animal against its own sexual hormones.



Burdizzo 9inch open

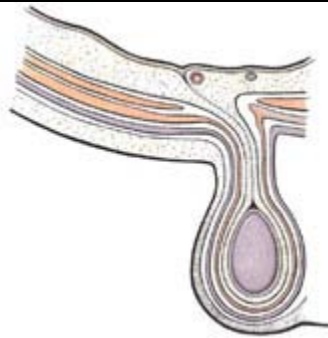


Burdizzo 9in closed



Certain animals, like horses and swine, are usually surgically treated by a scrotal castration (which can be done with the animal standing while sedated and after local anaesthetic has been applied), while others, like dogs and cats, are anaesthetised and recumbent when surgically castrated with a pre-scrotal incision in the case of dogs, or a pre-scrotal or scrotal incision used for cats.

In veterinary practice an "open" castration refers to a castration in which the inguinal tunic is incised and not sutured. A "closed" castration refers to when the procedure is performed so that the inguinal tunic is sutured together after incision.



Schematic of horizontal section of inguinal canal and testis