



TeSE

TeSE stands for Testicular Sperm Extraction. This is performed under local anaesthetic, sedation or a general anaesthetic as a day case procedure. TeSE can be performed with a biopsy gun (closed TeSE), with open biopsies or with microscopic dissection.

Closed TeSE

TeSE can be done with a biopsy gun that takes a needle biopsy of the testis. This is done through a tiny cut in the scrotum. Normally 4 biopsies from each testis are taken. The tiny incision is sprayed to seal it at the end and does not normally require a stitch.

Open TeSE

TeSE can also be performed by making a cut in the scrotum and making 4 tiny cuts in each testis. This removes a larger quantity of testicular tissue. The tiny cuts are closed with a stitch and the cut in the scrotum is closed with a dissolvable stitch. This is also done as a day case.

Microscopic dissection TeSE

Sperm production can be patchy throughout the testis, so the above procedures may miss areas of sperm production. With microdissection TeSE the testes are opened under a general anaesthetic and a high power microscope is used to search through the testes thoroughly to look for tubes that are larger and more opaque than others where sperm may be present. The success rates are better than with the other forms of TeSE but it takes longer, and there are higher risks of bleeding, infection and testicular damage. The cut in the scrotum is closed with a dissolvable stitch and this is also done as a day case.

