

Informed Consent Handout – TVT

This handout explains the risk of Tension-Free Vaginal Tape (TVT) as performed by Dr. Reilly. It is based on published studies of TVT and Dr. Reilly's complication rates. TVT is a procedure done to help control urinary stress incontinence (leakage) due to inadequate support of the urethra. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Dr. Reilly's office at (519) 787-7418 or Palmerston Hospital at 519-343-2030 to book an appointment to review your questions. The information below is summarized in a chart on the other side of this page.

Dr. Reilly started independent practice in August 2005. Between August 2005 and Dec 31, 2017 Dr. Reilly performed 504 TVTs. 63% of his patients experienced no complications.

Whenever surgery is performed, there is a risk of bleeding and infection. These risks can range from a minor issue that does not require any treatment to death. The published rate for infection with TVT is 1-11% while Dr. Reilly's rate is 9%. The study rates for bleeding are 4% while Dr. Reilly's rate is 2.4%.

The most common complications of a TVT are bladder injury and urinary retention. If the bladder injury is recognized at the time of the surgery, then the patient will only need to wear a catheter overnight after the surgery and there is no long-term harm. If the bladder injury is not recognized during the surgery, then the consequences could be additional surgery and/or long-term harm. In published studies, the risk of bladder injury ranges from 5% to 19% while Dr. Reilly's patients experience this 17.5% of the time. Dr. Reilly has not had a patient whose bladder injury was not recognized at the time of surgery.

Urinary retention is not being able to empty your bladder; this occurs when the TVT is too tight. A patient with urinary retention needs a catheter to empty her bladder after the surgery. If the problem doesn't resolve itself within 6 weeks after the surgery, then a second small procedure is performed to release the TVT. For urinary retention, the risk in published studies ranges from 5% to 11% while Dr. Reilly's rate is 16%. In studies 4% of patients need a TVT release while Dr. Reilly's patients require this 6% of the time.

Summary

504 TVT's Performed

Complication	# of Patients	% of Patients	% in Studies
No complication	316	63%	
1. Bleeding	12	2%	4%
2. Infection	46	9%	1 - 11%
4. Bladder Injury	88	17.5%	5 - 19%
5. Cut TVT	30	6%	4%
7. Urinary retention	80	16%	5 - 11%