

RADICAL PROSTATECTOMY

There is about a 2% risk of severe incontinence that would require a surgical procedure for correction.

There is a variable risk of erectile dysfunction. This will also depend on whether a nerve sparing procedure has been performed. This will have been discussed in detail prior to your operation. A nerve sparing procedure never guarantees potency as the nerves may still be bruised/or injured during the procedure. This must be absolutely and clearly understood by the patient, no matter who is performing the surgery.

There is a possibility of requiring extra treatment in the form of radiation therapy or hormonal therapy. This depends on the aggressiveness of the tumour as well as other factors which will have been discussed with you.

There is a risk of bleeding during the procedure but it is not common to have a blood transfusion.

There is a small risk of postoperative infection and you will have received intraoperative antibiotics to reduce this risk.

As with any procedure there is a small risk of injury to adjacent organs in the operative field. In the case of prostate surgery there is a very small risk of injury to the bowel behind the bladder as well as the ureters above the prostate entering the bladder. The risk of these injuries is in the order of about 1%.