



Is PAE covered by insurance?

Since the procedure is so new, some insurance companies may not offer coverage for PAE unless certain conditions are met, like having blood in the urine (hematuria). After discussing your medical history with you, we can check on coverage with your insurance company.

How long does it take?

The outpatient procedure takes about two hours, so patients go home the same day. Recovery typically takes just a few days at home before patients can return to work and other routine activities.

Will my sexual function change?

Thankfully, shrinking the prostate does not have any negative impact on sexual function, and indeed a small number of patients experience an improvement in their sexual function after the procedure. However, there are some minimal risks.

What are the risks?

PAE has been shown to have fewer side effects than other widely used treatments for BPH such as transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) surgery, which is associated with incontinence, retrograde ejaculation, and erectile dysfunction issues in men. When the procedure is performed by an experienced physician, the complication rate is extremely low and the procedure is incredibly safe and effective.

Who would PAE be good for?

All men who've been diagnosed with BPH, who experience symptoms that are not controlled well by medications and who are not able to or do not want to undergo invasive surgical treatments, are candidates for PAE. Patients must have reasonable kidney function and not be allergic to the contrast dye used during the procedure.

Start enjoying life again.

The initial consultation can take place at any of our AUS offices. If it's determined that PAE is right for you, the actual procedure will then be performed in-office by our Intervenor Radiologist at one of our dedicated IR Centers.

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PAE

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What is PAE?

In-office, non-surgical treatment for BPH

Prostatic artery embolization, or PAE, is a minimally invasive procedure used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia, or BPH. Because BPH is an enlarged prostate gland, the overall goal of PAE treatment is to reduce the size of the prostate and decrease any symptoms.

This procedure shrinks the prostate gland, providing relief of the symptoms. Following this procedure, the prostate will begin to shrink, relieving and improving symptoms usually within days of the procedure.



The advantages of PAE



Doesn't require an incision.



Doesn't cause erectile dysfunction or bladder control issues.



General anesthesia is not needed, only "twilight sleep."



Procedure is painless.



Overnight stay is rarely necessary.



Side effects are manageable: soreness in pelvic area, possible nausea or fever.



Results are usually noticeable within three weeks.

How does it work?

PAE is performed by an interventional radiologist (IR). An interventional radiologist is a doctor who uses X-rays and other imaging techniques to see inside the body and treat conditions without surgery.

The Interventional Radiologist places a tiny catheter into the arteries that feed the prostate gland. A solution containing thousands of microscopic plastic beads is injected. This solution blocks the blood supply by shutting down blood flow to the gland and causes the prostate to shrink over time.

Following this procedure, the prostate will begin to shrink, relieving and improving symptoms usually within days of the procedure.

The benefits of PAE



Minimally invasive

No surgical incision or device inserted into the urethra which avoids the need for traditional open surgery.

Quick procedure

Painless, in-office procedure lasts approximately 1 hour.

Faster recovery

Performed in an outpatient setting, there's no need for general anesthesia. Compared to surgery, PAE offers a much quicker recovery time, allowing patients to return home the same day and able to return to full activity within one week.

Reduced risk of side effects

PAE boasts a lower risk of complications like sexual dysfunction and urinary incontinence compared to other BPH treatments.

Long-lasting results

Studies show PAE provides sustained relief from BPH symptoms for many years.

