

Sexual Side Effects for Men

Chemotherapy or radiation therapy may sometimes affect men's and women's sexual organs and function. Side effects depend on the drugs used; the site treated with radiation and the patient's age and general health.

Chemotherapy drugs or radiation therapy may lower the number of sperm produced, reduce their ability to move or cause other abnormalities. These changes can result in temporary or permanent infertility. Although infertility prevents reproduction, it does not affect your ability to have sexual intercourse.

Because permanent sterility may be a potential side effect of treatment, it is important to discuss this with your doctor before treatment begins. If the ability to father children in the future is important to you, a sperm bank can freeze your sperm for future use.

Because therapy damages chromosomes, you and your partner should use an effective means of birth control while you are undergoing treatment. Your Physician can advise you.