



Female-to-male genital reconstruction surgery has a high negative outcome rate, including urethral compromise and worsened mental health.

The results of a 2021 international survey [1] of 129 female-to-male patients who underwent genital reconstruction surgery support anecdotal reports that complication rates following genital reconstruction are higher than are commonly reported in the surgical literature.

Complication rates, including urethral compromise, and worsened mental health outcomes remain high for gender affirming penile reconstruction. In total, the 129 patients reported 281 complications requiring 142 revisions.

Another paper [2] found a 70% complication rate in one type of female-to-male genital reconstruction surgery.

Even with the "radial forearm free flap" method of creating a synthetic penis — "considered by many as the gold standard for phalloplasty" [3] — there are high rates of complications, with up to 64% urethroplasty related complications [4].

REFERENCES

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[3] Rashid, M. & Tamimy, M. S. (2013). Phalloplasty: The dream and the reality. *Indian J Plast Surg* 46 (2): 283-293. [\[Link\]](#)

[4] Fang, R.H., Lin, J.T. & Ma S. (1994). Phalloplasty for female transsexuals with sensate free forearm flap. *Microsurgery* 15: 349–52. [\[Link\]](#)

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