

	No Treatment	Alpha Blocker Medications (i.e. Flomax, Cardura, Hytrin)	5-Alpha Reductase Medications (i.e. Avodart, Proscar)	Prolieve Microwave (with prostate dilation)	TherMatrix DOT Microwave	Other Minimally Invasive Treatments (i.e. “cooled” TUMT, TUNA, ILC)	Surgery (i.e. TURP, TUIP, PVP, TVP)
Symptom relief?	Symptoms usually worsen over time.	Fair symptom relief.	Fair symptom relief.	Fair/good symptom relief.	Fair/good symptom relief.	Fair/good symptom relief.	<u>Excellent</u> symptom relief.
Long lasting results?		Only as long as medication is taken daily.	Only as long as medication is taken daily.	Probably years -- but too early to tell precisely how long.	Probably years -- but too early to tell precisely how long.	Probably years -- but too early to tell precisely how long.	<u>Many years</u> in most cases.
Operating room or IV anesthesia required?		<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>	Not usually, however without a significant anesthetic some men feel pain during the short treatment.	<u>No</u> (This is unquestionably the most easily tolerated prostate procedure of all.)	Yes – a significant anesthetic is required, otherwise real pain is common during the short treatment.	Yes – a significant anesthetic is required every time.
Fast results?		<u>Fast</u> – one to two weeks.	Slow – three to six months.	<u>Fast</u> – usually one day.	Moderately fast – one to eight weeks.	Moderately fast – one to eight weeks.	<u>Fast</u> – usually one day.
What are the more common side effects and complications? -- (Less common, rare or mild side effects and complications are not listed here.)	Worsening symptoms in most men and complete inability to urinate in some.	Dizziness, fatigue and fainting in a minority of men. Nasal congestion and sexual ejaculation problems in some.	Nasal congestion and sexual ejaculation problems in a small minority of men. Decreased sex drive in some.	Pain and strong feeling of need to urinate during short treatment.	<u>Practically no side effects or complications</u> beyond a strong feeling of need to urinate during short treatment.	Pain and strong feeling of need to urinate during short treatment.	Bleeding requiring need for blood transfusion, scaring within urine channel requiring dilation or surgery in some.
Is a catheter usually needed?	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>	Yes	Yes
Does Medicare cover this?		No	No	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Does insurance usually cover this?		Yes – to some degree.	Yes – to some degree.	<u>Yes</u> – almost always.	<u>Yes</u> – almost always.	<u>Yes</u> – almost always.	<u>Yes</u> – almost always.

(Not every patient or clinical situation can be concisely categorized in a few words, such as in the table above. Patient perceptions and individual results do vary. The comments in the table above are intended to convey general expectations and common results. However, there is no substitute for consultation with a Board certified urologist.)