



[National](#) | [World](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [Travel](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Technology](#) | [Finance](#) | [Sport](#) | [Video](#) ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐



The stories you need to know today



Boldon responds to Nova scandal ☐



ASIO: Burqa ban won't work



Nova's 'freaky' sex scandal



LATEST IN NATIONAL

**national**

# Remote-control contraception

This story was published: 7 YEARS AGO | FEBRUARY 06, 2008 12:00AM

VASECTOMIES could be a thing of the past thanks to a remote-controlled implant that can stop the flow of sperm.

The valve-like device can be opened and shut at the press of a button, using the same technology that locks a car using a key fob.

Scientists who invented the implant say it could be used as a form of male contraception.

Men who change their minds about having children would then simply point the remote handset at their testicles and press a button to open up the valve.

The procedure usually involves making two small cuts near each testicle and cutting the vas deferens, the tubes that carry sperm. A small section of each tube is removed and the two ends sealed, either by tying a knot in them or heating them up with a probe.

The procedure is carried out with a local anaesthetic and the dissolvable stitches usually disappear within a week.

Reversal involves sewing the two cut ends back together. But it only works in around 50 per cent of cases, often because scarring where the cuts were made mean sperm cannot get through.

Research also suggests vasectomies leave many men with abnormalities in their sperm that could dramatically reduce the chances of fathering a child.

The remote-controlled implant, which is still at the very early stages of testing, could be a much more attractive alternative.

It is made from silicone-based materials, which the body's defence mechanisms usually recognise as friendly, so reducing the risk of reaction or infection.

Advertisement

STORY BY

As it is no larger than a grain of rice, it can be inserted into each sperm- carrying tube using a needle.

Professor Derek Abbott, who heads the research team at the University of Adelaide, said the idea is that the valve remains shut most of the time and acts as a contraceptive barrier.

A man would then use the handset, or fob, to open it around the time of having sex if he and his partner wanted to conceive.

Once the handset is pressed, it sends a coded radio signal through the skin to the implant, which contains a tiny antenna. The antenna picks up the signal and converts it into sound waves that "ripple" through the valve.

Since the valve itself is soft and flexible, the sound waves make it flap open - allowing sperm to pass through. As with cars, each device would have its own unique code so it could not be opened by anyone else.

COMMENT ON THIS STORY

Ads By Google

# 1 Rule Of A Flat Stomach

Cut down a bit of stomach fat every day using this 1 weird tip.



RIGHT NOW IN NATIONAL NEWS

753 READERS | [Nova Peris sex scandal: Ato Boldon responds](#)

605 READERS | [RUSH HOUR: The stories you need to know today](#)

514 READERS | [Kiwi couple allegedly assaulted father and son, and told the...](#)

168 READERS | [Tony Abbott threatened in parliament](#)

42 READERS | [And then there were two: Sophie Monk follows Mel B and quits...](#)

NATIONAL BREAKING NEWS

10:24AM | [Defence continues Afghan hand inquiry](#)

10:24AM | [Govt still party of low taxation:Cormann](#)

10:09AM | [Shorten backs Peris amid affair claims](#)

10:05AM | [Melbourne's racegoers warned to behave](#)

10:05AM | [SA man detained after 2 family stabbin...](#)

BEST FROM Mail



'Stupid behaviour' inviting dingo attacks

[MORE AT THE COURIER-MAIL](#)

[PREV](#) [NEXT](#)

WE RECOMMEND



Win for 'driver' after police case blown...

NATIONAL NEWS



Has Jacqui Lambie finally lost it?

NATIONAL NEWS



When the law says an angel baby is not a person

KIDSPOT



A little girl allowed to die

KIDSPOT



The home that hasn't changed since 1969

FINANCE

FROM AROUND THE WEB



The Best makeup accessory a girl can have

L'OREAL ON THE DAILY TELEGRAPH



There Are 7 Types of English Last Names — Which One Is...

ANCESTRY.COM.AU



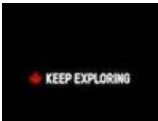
Islamic State damaging Turkey trade

NIKKEI ASIAN REVIEW



Best Telstra phones on the market right now

WHISTLEOUT



Video: Black Bear Sliding Down a Snow Slope in...

VISIT CANADA

ADD YOUR COMMENT ON THIS STORY

1200  
characters left

Sign up to our daily newsletter




Get the latest headlines delivered to your inbox each morning.

sign up >

Home Loan 4.56% p.a. 

loans.com.au Dream Home Loan Variable (Blackboard Special)



comparison rate  
4.56%

✓ Borrow up to 90% of the property value

✓ Full featured loan

mozo-powered

Advertisement

the Closer you are 2014 the more we care

Council Elections  
vote now



Advertisement

Sponsored Links

- SpeakUp in your community

Vote - ballot papers must be received no later than 5pm  
Fri 7 Nov
- YOU'LL FIND SUCCESS

With a postgraduate degree at Flinders in 2015. Apply now.
- Make a donation today

Help UNHCR provide emergency relief for refugees

DAILY DEALS



10,000 Qantas Points  
Bankwest Transaction  
Account Offer. Conditions  
apply



GALAXY Note 4  
Compare deals on the NEW  
GALAXY Note 4



Hot Phone Deals  
Compare Optus, Telstra,  
Vodafone and Virgin Mobile



0% For 14 Months  
Get 0% p.a. on balance  
transfers with St.George  
Vertigo



Super Home Loan Deal  
Australia's lowest variable  
rate home loan. No monthly  
fees



Amazing Cruise Deals  
View Expedia's Cruise  
Specials

the closer  
you  
are  
the more  
we care

2014 Council Elections

vote now

Speak up...

for your community

Advertisement

A NOTE ABOUT RELEVANT ADVERTISING: We collect information about the content (including ads) you use across this site and use it to make both advertising and content more relevant to you on our network and other sites. This is also known as Online Behavioural Advertising. [Find out more about our policy and your choices, including how to opt-out.](#)



NEWSLETTERS ▾



MOBILE ▾



RSS ▾



ADVERTISE ▾



ABOUT US ▾

Legal: [Privacy Policy](#) | [Relevant Ads Opt-Out](#) | [Cookie Policy](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#)

News Limited Copyright © 2014. All times on this site are AEDT (GMT +11).