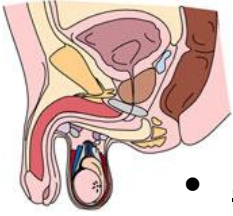


Testicular Problems

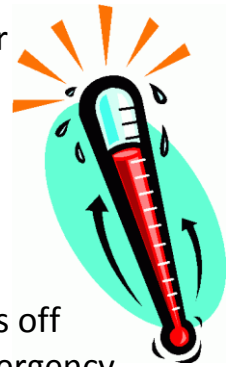
What is it?



- **Testicles**- produce sperm, male hormones, 2 testicles, 1 larger than the other is normal, prone to injury due to location
 - **Located**- behind the penis, inside the scrotum (sac of skin), suspended at the end of a spermatic cord
 - **Spermatic Cord**- made of blood vessels, nerves, vas deferens tube
- **Sperm Cells**- leave the testicle through a coiled tube at the top of the testicle (epididymis); deposited in seminal vesicles near the prostate gland
- **Sperm**- mixes with fluids creating semen for sexual activity

Signs and Symptoms:

- **Pain**- severe, sudden, sharp in one testicle; may spread to the lower abdomen; swelling high in the scrotum
- **Other Symptoms**- Fever, Nausea, Vomiting



Facts:

- **Injury to Testicle**- should go away < 1 hour
- **Testicular Torsion**- 1 testicle rotates, twists the spermatic cord, cuts off blood flow to the testicle, can occur at any age, often a medical emergency
 - **Most Common**- teenage boys
 - **Caused by**- strenuous physical activity, sometimes no cause
- **Epididymitis**- caused by a bacterial infection, bladder injury, bladder infection
 - **Causes**- pain, swelling of the scrotum; may have a fever, tender to touch
 - **Orchitis**- inflammation of the testicle, caused by bacterial infection, virus, mumps, prostate infection; causes pain, swelling, causes infertility if not treated
- **Testicular Cancer**- rare, 15 to 35



What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- antibiotics
- **See RD for help as needed *See FFF RD on line for help**
- **Surgery**- to restore blood flow to the testicle, has to be done < 3 hours or may be permanent damage and have to be removed