

After a Circumcision



Urology Department

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After a circumcision, your child will:

- ▶ Have some discomfort and need extra cuddles.
- ▶ Be given pain medication such as: Acetaminophen (Tylenol) by the nurse in the Daycare Dept to help with the surgical pain. You will also be given instructions on what your child can eat or drink directly after his surgery.
- ▶ Most likely be back to his usual food the day after surgery.
- ▶ Need to drink more fluids than normal to dilute the urine and encourage him to pee.
- ▶ Be able to pee after his circumcision. He may refuse to pee because of fear of pain. Encourage him to sit in a warm bath and try to pee in the water, as it may be soothing.

The Dressing

The doctor may put a dressing around the penis. The dressing helps to control bleeding. It also stops the underwear or a diaper sticking to the wound. Leave this on for 24 to 48 hours and then remove it. When you remove the dressing you should soak it first with warm water. If the penis bleeds put a clean cloth or gauze over the area. With your thumb and forefinger, put pressure on the penis until the bleeding stops.

After You Remove The Dressing

You may see a whitish/yellow substance on the head of the penis for 2 to 3 days. Do not remove this. This is a sign of healing. When the doctor does the circumcision she/he injects local anesthetic at the base of the penis. It can cause the penis and scrotum to bruise and swell. This goes away on its own. A layer of skin swells and bulges under the skin around the base of the head of the penis after the circumcision. This is normal.

Keeping Clean and Bathing

- ▶ After the dressing is off, gently wash the penis with a warm, clean, cloth and pat it dry. Unscented baby wipes can be used when changing diapers.
- ▶ For the next couple of weeks, you may give your son a couple of short baths per day to keep the area clean. Use warm water. Do not use soap.
- ▶ Following every bath and diaper change, apply Polysporin Ointment to his penis, making sure to cover the stitches. This will help stop the penis from sticking to the diaper or clothes. Make sure to change your son's diaper more often until the circumcision heals.

Older Boys:

- ▶ encourage him to wear loose underwear and pants. You may also apply Polysporin Ointment regularly to his penis to help keep it from sticking to the fabric of his clothes.

Please Note:

Over the next few weeks after surgery, make sure the skin on the penis can move below the head of the penis. This is also called the glans. Sometimes the skin moves up over the glans and sticks to it. If the skin sticks, your son may need more surgery later. With your thumb and forefinger, push down on either side of the base of the penis, till the glans "pops out" above the skin. In chubby babies, the penis may seem to "hide" in the fat surrounding the penis area.

Activities For Older Boys

On the day of surgery encourage your son to rest and play quiet games. Discourage rough play and riding toys for another day or two.

He can usually go back to school or day care after 5 days. However, he should not play any sports or contact games for 4 weeks.

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He may go swimming in a public pool one week after his surgery.

Notes:



Please call the Urology Clinic at 604-875-2734 or the Urology Nurse Clinician at 604-875-2889 if:

- your son has a fever,
- the penis gets more painful rather than less,
- you see pus or infection,
- you see more redness and swelling or both that is spreading down the shaft of the penis to the scrotum,
- the penis keeps bleeding after you have put pressure on it, with your thumb and forefinger, for over two minutes. Go to the Emergency Dept. if you cannot contact your doctor. Have someone drive you so you can keep putting pressure on the penis on the way to hospital.

Its good to ask!