

Home Care Following Circumcision and Penile Surgery

What to expect

- After surgery, you can expect soreness, bruising and swelling.
- If there are any stitches present they will slowly dissolve and come out on their own.
- If there is a dressing present it may come off shortly after surgery. This is okay, as long as there is no bleeding. If the dressing has not come off after 3 days then remove it. Sometimes it is useful to get the dressing wet or quickly soak the dressing and penis under water to help loosen it. If the dressing gets soiled remove it.
- If the dressing starts to bunch at the base of the penis then please remove it.
- When skin glue has been used instead of a dressing this usually falls off after one to two weeks. It is okay for the skin glue to get wet.
- With a circumcision, it is normal for the head of the penis to have a yellowish film present as it heals.
- After the dressing falls off, or after 48 hours if skin glue was used, please apply bacitracin to the incision and stitches (if present) 2 to 3 times per day for 2 weeks.

Bathing

- Short tub baths or showers are fine 48 hours after surgery. Wash with soap and water.
- Check your child's penis each time you change his diaper (every 3-4 hours) or when he goes to the bathroom.

Activity

- No roughhousing or tumbling for 2 weeks. No sports, bike riding or straddle toys, walkers, swings, jumpers, etc. for 2 weeks.
- No swimming until 2 weeks after surgery.
- You should still put your child in their car seat normally following surgery.

Diet

- Your child may eat a normal diet. Start off with clear liquids, like juices, popsicles, water, or ice. Start solid food slowly after this with a little bit at a time. It is not unusual for the child to throw up in the first day after surgery and this is from the medicines used to make them sleepy during the surgery.

Medications

- If a pain medication is prescribed for your child give it to him for severe pain only. This medication is usually not needed after one to two days after surgery. If the pain is less severe, then using Tylenol and Motrin may help. It is okay to give Motrin with the prescription pain medication **but it is not okay to give Tylenol with the prescription pain medication since both medications contain Tylenol.**

Things to Check For

- Swelling (a small amount is normal)
- Oozing of blood or active bleeding (a small amount is normal)
- Bad odor
- Pus

When to Call

- Fever of 101F degrees or higher.
- Increased swelling.
- Bleeding more than 2 inches in diameter on the diaper or underwear.
- Concerns for infection at the site of surgery.
- Any other problems, concerns, or questions.

How to Reach Us

- **Non urgent** general questions during weekdays call the Pediatric Urology Clinic, from 8:30am-4:30pm at **503-494-4808**.
- Evenings, weekends, and holidays, call the hospital operator 503-494-8311. Ask for the pediatric urology resident on call.

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