

Care of Your Child After a Circumcision



We Treat Kids Better

Care of Your Child After a Circumcision

Circumcision is a way that doctors take off the foreskin of the penis.

What to expect

It is normal to have some discomfort at home especially at the wound sites. This typically lasts for a few days.

You should expect to see swelling of the skin of the penis. You may see golden brown or straw colored discharge from the edges of the wound. Sometimes this will form into a crust.

You may also see some bleeding. This is most common in the first few days. If it is anything more than a few drops or staining of the diaper, simply hold firm pressure on the wound for 3–6 minutes and repeat as necessary.

Activity

- **Toddlers**

Quiet, normal play, such as walking and going outside with a parent watching the child, is OK.

No rough play or straddling toys, such as rocking horses or bikes, for at least 4 to 8 weeks after surgery.

- **Babies**

Babies can keep doing the same things as before surgery, such as using an infant swing or infant seat.

Bathing

- Give your child a sponge bath for the first 2 days after the surgery.

- Do not have him sit in the bathtub. Instead, use a clean washcloth and warm water to clean him.
- Unless your doctor tell you to wait: 3 days after the surgery give him short regular baths until the stitches have fallen off.
- If a bandage was used, it can be removed the day after surgery.
- It will usually take 4 to 6 weeks for the sutures to dissolve completely.
- Do not use very warm or hot water.

Pain/Medications

- Give your child acetaminophen (such as Tylenol®) as needed for pain.
- For pain that does not go away with plain acetaminophen, give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol®) with codeine or Lortab instead of regular acetaminophen at the next dose (if ordered by your doctor). Your doctor may order Oxycodone or other prescription pain medication. Use as ordered by the doctor.
- Do not give acetaminophen more times than recommended on the bottle or as ordered by the physician.
- Many over-the-counter medications also contain acetaminophen (Tylenol®). Tell your doctor if your child is taking other prescription or over-the-counter medications.
- Your doctor also may order ibuprofen for pain.



- Wash your hands with soap and warm water. Use a clean finger to put a little bit of Bacitracin® (Neosporin) or Vaseline to the penis with diaper changes. You will do this at least 3 times a day for 2-3 weeks. Make sure to wash your hands with soap and warm water after this step. Make sure you can see the entire head of the penis with every application to prevent the penis skin from sticking to the head. Stop applying when the wound looks completely healed or as instructed by your doctor.
- If your doctor ordered antibiotics, please make sure to give your child all of the medicine, unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- Give all medications as ordered by your doctor.

Make this Call the First Week

Your child will need to see his doctor about 4 to 6 weeks after surgery. Please call 323-361-2247 to make an appointment.

When to Call the Doctor

- For fever over 101.5° F
- For redness, swelling or oozing from the surgical site
- If you have any questions or concerns

Office Hours

Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., call 323-361-7559.

Weekends or evenings, call 323-660-2450 and ask for the urology resident on call.