Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Circumcision

Post-operative Information
Oak Ward Day Unit

Patient Information

What is a Circumcision?

A circumcision is an operation to remove the foreskin (the skin that covers the sensitive tip of the penis) and is performed when the foreskin is too tight to slide back (retract) over the penis. The operation will leave a small circle of stitches around the end of the penis. Therefore, it will look as if the foreskin is always pulled back. The area may look bruised or swollen for the first few days, this is perfectly normal.

In 3-4 days, scabs will begin to form. Although this is completely normal, occasionally the scabs can form over the opening so that your child might have difficulty in passing urine or may spray urine. Gently rubbing Vaseline into the scabs will soften them so that they fall off without causing bleeding. The base of the penis may look swollen for up to 3-4 months and some children may have a fold of skin at the stitch line, underneath the penis - this will disappear as they grow.

Dressing:

- Dressings should be removed after 24 hours
- If a dressing is present do not pull it off, soak it off by adding a few drops of water over the next day or two
- The operation doesn't involve your son's urethra or "water pipe" so there should be no difficulty passing water, although it may sting a little and he may be a little worried about doing so.
- Encourage your child to drink lots for 24 hrs following the operation as this will help dilute their urine so it will sting less when they pass urine.

The wound:

- For about two weeks the head of the penis will look red and swollen, this is normal.
- The stitches are self-dissolving and will eventually fall away on their own after about 10-14 days.
- After a day or two much of the head of the penis will be covered in scabs and there may well be a yellow discharge.
- Loose fitting clothes are recommended for the journey home and a few days after the operation
- You may find that it is better for your child not to wear any underpants until they have sufficiently healed, otherwise the fabric may stick to the penis and cause unnecessary pain.
- If your child wears nappies, they will need to be changed every 4 hours for the first 48 hours and immediately after a

dirty nappy. This is to minimise the risk of infection but also alert you to any bleeding. Apply a layer of Vaseline to the inside of the nappy to prevent it sticking to the penis.

Bleeding:

- A minimal amount of bleeding / ooze on the day of the operation is common.
- If a lot of bleeding does occur and shows no signs of stopping after ten minutes, please contact the ward or take him to your nearest A & E Department.

Showering:

- After 36 hours, your son should have a shower once a day for about ten minutes, any longer than this may cause the wound to become soggy. Do not use soap / cosmetics or bath for 4 - 5 days. Your child should not go swimming.

Pain:

Some pain / discomfort may be felt initially so give your child regular Paracetamol and Ibuprofen for pain relief according to their age. If your child needs anything stronger, this will be provided by the ward. Give regularly for the first 48 hours and then as necessary.

Paracetamol can be given 4-6 hourly.
Last given at: _____
Can have next at: _____

Ibuprofen can be given 6-8 hourly.
Last given at: _____
Can have next at: _____

Returning to Normal Activities:

- Your son may benefit from rest for the first few days and can return to nursery / school when he is comfortable.
- Sporting activities e.g., cycling, football, or P.E. may be started when he is comfortable, usually after 10-14 days.
- Most young boys will make up their own mind about when they are going to start running around. At that stage it is not worth trying to stop them.

Follow up appointment:

- If a follow-up appointment is required, this will be sent to you through the post, or you may be contacted via telephone.

Any concerns / questions:

- If your child experiences any of the following symptoms, please contact your GP or take your child to your nearest A&E Department.

- A high temperature
- The wound becomes red, swollen, hot and / or oozing
- Persistent pain, despite taking pain relief.
- Unable to pass urine.

- For general enquiry following surgery, please contact the ward on the phone numbers below.

Contact Numbers:

Oak Ward, St Peter's Hospital - 01932 722016 / 01932 722712

Ash Ward, St Peter's Hospital - 01932 722714

Urology, St Peters Hospital - 01932 722376

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty.
If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

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We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

اگر نیاز به ترجمه دارید، لطفا با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید.

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اِس کا اُردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہِ کرم اِس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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