

circumcision care



what is a circumcision?

A circumcision is a surgical procedure done to remove the foreskin that covers the glans (head) of the penis. This procedure is generally considered elective though it may be recommended in some cases.

is it done with anesthesia?

Newborn circumcisions are done while the infant is awake, using techniques to anesthetize the penis. In older infants and in children, general anesthesia is used.

how is the circumcision done?

The foreskin is separated from the penis and the excess foreskin is then surgically removed. Dissolvable sutures are placed and the penis is covered with a clear tape-like dressing.

post-op care

The clear tape dressing will generally remain in place for 2-5 days before falling off. If it has not fallen off after 5 days, the tape may be soaked off in the bathtub and removed carefully.

After the tape comes off, apply Bacitracin or Neosporin ointment to the surgical site 3-4 times daily for 7-10 days. If your child still wears diapers, the ointment should be applied with each diaper change. Use care to change the diaper promptly when wet or soiled to avoid irritation the surgical site.

what problems can arise after a circumcision?

Your child could experience pain, swelling, redness or bleeding from the foreskin edge. These are not serious problems and most children do very well with Tylenol or other pain relievers as directed. Please call our office if redness, swelling or pain persists as this may indicate infection. Also call if bleeding is more than a few drops of blood.



cleaning the healing area

Your child may be placed in the bathtub as soon as the dressing comes off. You may use gentle soap and plenty of warm water to rinse off the lather. Carefully wash out any creamy-white tissue that appears tucked inside the folds of the foreskin.

hygiene of the circumcised penis

Be sure to gently pull back the foreskin and clean behind it when bathing your child. Even the edge of the foreskin of the circumcised penis may have a tendency to stick back to the head of the penis. Careful hygiene may help to avoid such sticking.

