

# HALTON UROLOGY

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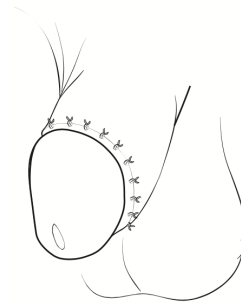
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## Discharge Instructions for Childhood Circumcision

Your son has had a circumcision. The foreskin (prepuce) was removed to uncover the head of the penis (glans). The skin edges at the site of incision were brought back together with dissolving stitches. This procedure is typically done for adult due to phimosis (inability to retract the foreskin covering the head of the penis).



### What to expect

- You will probably see a crust of blood, or eventually a yellowish coating, where the foreskin was removed. Don't rub off the crust or coating as it may bleed.
- The penis will swell a little, or it may bleed a little around the incision.
- The head of the penis will be a little red or slightly black-and-blue.
- Your child may cry at first when he urinates, or he may be fussy for the first few days.
- Give your child pain medications when needed. You will be given a prescription for morphine elixir or syrup however most often Tylenol (acetaminophen) is all he will need.
- Healing takes about 2-3 weeks.

### Bleeding

- It is normal to see some slight oozing from the wound edges or in between the stitches. You may also notice some spotting in the diaper or in his underwear. This should stop within the first 24 hours after surgery.
- If you see any obvious oozing, apply to direct pressure with a warm cloth for 5-10 minutes and it should stop.
- If there is persistent bleeding, spotting in the diaper larger than the size of a toonie or if you see any clots in his diaper or underwear, please bring him to your nearest Emergency Department immediately.

### Caring for your son's bandage

- If your child has a bandage or dressing wrapped around his penis, you may change or remove the bandage within 24 hours after surgery. Most often, I will apply a Coban self-adherent compression dressing at the end of his surgery. If the dressing falls off, you do not need to replace it or put a new bandage on it. Leave it open to air.

### **Cleaning your son's penis and bathing**

- Your son can have a short bath or shower starting the day after surgery.
- Apply a topical barrier ointment (such as petroleum jelly) on the end of the penis after bath or shower if you wish. A topical barrier prevents the penis from sticking to the diaper or underwear.
- Use a soft washcloth and warm water to gently clean the penis if it has dried blood on it.
- Let it air dry after cleaning to avoid excessive irritation to his penis.

### **Colour changes to your son's penis**

- Immediately after the circumcision, the glans may appear red and glossy or even purple.
- The head of the penis may have off-white or yellowish patches in the first few days after surgery. These are a type of scab and are completely normal.
- Two or three days after the circumcision, the skin may look green and yellow. This is a sign of normal healing, not pus. This will all resolve over the course of a few weeks.

### **Infection**

- Antibiotics are generally not required after a circumcision.
- It is normal to see some redness or bruising along the penile head and shaft.

### **Pain**

- Infants may be fussy and in pain after a circumcision, but this usually does not last more than a few days. Signs of pain can include crying and problems with sleep and feeding.
- During the first 24 hours after circumcision, you may give Tylenol regularly to manage your child's pain. Be aware of how much Tylenol your child has received in the hospital.
- You can use the prescription pain medication as directed if the Tylenol is not sufficient. The prescribed pain medication is dosed based on their weight.

### **Swelling**

- You may notice some swelling behind or under the head of the penis and believe it looks like a blister. The swelling is simply another sign of healing and will disappear within a week or two.

### **Follow-Up Appointment:**

- My office will contact you with a follow-up appointment time and date. This appointment will usually be 4-6 weeks after the date of surgery.

### **When to Seek Medical Attention:**

- Fever
- Persistent bleeding
- Pus-like (yellow or green) drainage or foul smell from the incision
- Worsening pain or your son is not settling despite pain medications
- Worsening redness
- Difficulty urinating or less wet diapers

**For Urgent or Emergent situations, please call my office at 905-875-3920 during office hours (9:00am-5:00pm) or outside these hours, please go to your nearest Emergency Department.**

*\*Updated June 2022*