

Department of Pediatric Urology

Caring for your Child at Home after a Circumcision

These are general guidelines to assist you in caring for your child after their circumcision. These guidelines are an extra tool to guide you, however, our team remains available to answer any immediate concerns you may have once your child is discharged.

What is a Circumcision?

- A procedure in which the skin covering the tip of the penis or foreskin is removed.

Care for the Surgical Site

- Ensure that the penis is kept as clean as possible. You can gently wash the area with water. Avoid any scrubbing or rubbing.
- If your child is discharged with a dressing, you will need to remove it 24 hours after surgery (unless otherwise specified). We suggest removing it during a bath to decrease discomfort.
- Polysporin ointment will need to be applied to penis regularly after surgery
 - If your child is still in diapers, Polysporin ointment should be applied with each diaper change for the first 2-3 weeks after surgery or until all stitches have dissolved.
 - If your child is fully toilet trained, Polysporin ointment should be applied at a minimum of 3-4 times per day for the first 2-3 weeks after surgery or until all stitch have dissolved.
- If bleeding occurs use a gauze with Polysporin ointment on it to apply gentle pressure to the area for 3 to 5 minutes. Small amounts of spotting to underwear/diapers after surgery is normal.
- The penis may have some yellowish, white crusts or scabbing, this is part of the normal healing process. The area may also be swollen for several days to weeks after surgery.

Bathing

- Baths are to be given 24 hours after surgery. After which they should be given 1-2 times per day for 10-15 minutes for the first 2 weeks after surgery and Polysporin ointment should be generously applied to the penis after each bath.

Pain Management

- Give Tylenol and Advil regularly for the first 48 hours to ensure good pain control. These medications can be given in an alternating fashion or combined together depending your child's pain level.
- Here are some examples of schedules for administering the medications:

Suggested Schedule #1

Tylenol – As per prescribed dose	9h00
Advil – As per prescribed dose	12h00
Tylenol – As per prescribed dose	15h00
Advil – As per prescribed dose	18h00
Tylenol – As per prescribed dose	21h00

Suggested Schedule #2

Tylenol & Advil – As per prescribed dose	9h00
Tylenol & Advil – As per prescribed dose	15h00
Tylenol & Advil – As per prescribed dose	21h00

****Be sure to respect your child's sleep and do not wake them during the night to give medications****

Diet

- Progressively increase your child's diet as tolerated 1-2 hours after surgery.
- Starting with clear fluid (water, apple juice, Popsicle, etc.), then soft diet (purees, soup, yogurt, etc.), then regular diet.

Activities

- Quiet activities with close supervision can be resumed on the day of surgery
- After 24 hours – children can resume activities as tolerated
 - No swimming, bicycle, physical education class, rough play or sports for 2 - 4 weeks after surgery
- Your child may return to daycare/school after 3-5 days

When to call our team?

- Pain that does not decrease despite giving prescribed medications
- A fever 38.5°C or higher, 48 hours AFTER surgery
- Redness and tenderness that begins to worsen 3 days after surgery
- Persistent bleeding that does not stop despite gentle pressure for 5 minutes

****Do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions or concerns about your child's care at home****

Pediatric Urology Department

Monday – Friday from 9h00 – 17h00
(514) 412-4400 ext. 22875

Pediatric Urology Nurse Practitioner – Sabrina Marchetta

Tuesday – Friday from 7h00 – 17h00
(514) 412-4400 ext. 36376

Any urgent issues outside these hours or on statutory holidays please present to the Emergency Department at the Montreal Children's Hospital