

Patient information

Circumcision - Children

What is it?

The foreskin is the skin that surrounds the top of the penis. A circumcision removes this skin, leaving the top of the penis exposed and a row of dissolvable stitches is placed around where the excess skin has been removed.

Following your surgery:

- The skin at the top of the penis will look red and you will be able to see the stitches. The stitch line will gradually dry and scab over before the circumcision heals.
- The stitches will dissolve in approximately 10 - 14 days.
- The penis will be swollen and red. This is quite normal and will go down after a few days.
- There may be some oozing of blood and occasionally there is a little bleeding after the passing of urine. This is also quite normal and will stop after a day or two.
- The penis should be kept clean and dry for 24 hours. Thereafter a daily bath/shower should be encouraged.
- A certain amount of discomfort is normal and medicines such as Calpol (paracetamol) and Ibuprofen should be given regularly for the first 2 days, then as required. Please follow the instructions on the bottles and ensure you have one of our pain control leaflets.
- Your child needs to be watched closely for 24 hours after discharge and should be encouraged to take part in restful activities.
- Any rough play, climbing, contact sports and riding a bicycle should be avoided

for 1 week.

- Your child can return to school when their pain is under control and they feel well enough.

Contact your GP or GP Out-of-Hours Service if:

- Your child has severe pain.
- Any bleeding cannot be stopped after half an hour.
- The penis becomes more swollen, red, hot and/or produces a discharge as he may have an infection.

Further advice

If you are worried or need advice you can call the following departments who can best advise you on what to do:

- Rainbow ward 01284 713315 (24hrs a day)
- Your own GP / GP out of hours
- NHS 111

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the hospital website www.wsh.nhs.uk and click on the link, or visit the disabledgo website:

<http://www.disabledgo.com/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust/main>