

## Prevention of infection

Keeping the area very clean is the best way to prevent infection.

- ✓ Washing every day especially after using the toilet or when changing a nappy.
- ✓ Bathing with diluted Savlon is advised for a week after surgery.

## Other advice

Riding bikes or other sit-on toys is not advised until the swelling has completely settled (up to 3 weeks).

Children should be able to return to school & visit public places a week after surgery.



Contact a Doctor or the hospital if you are worried or if there are any of the following signs:

- Bleeding or any ooze
- Increased pain
- No urine passed
- Fever or Temperature
- Redness (after 3 weeks)
- Swelling (after 3 weeks)



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## Care of your child following a circumcision



THE ADELAIDE & MEATH  
HOSPITAL, DUBLIN  
INCORPORATING THE NATIONAL CHILDRENS  
HOSPITAL

### Statement of Values

Respect - Caring -  
Openness - Partnership -  
Teamwork Fairness &  
Equality

## What is circumcision?

Circumcision is a surgical procedure to remove the skin that covers the tip of the penis (the foreskin).

## Why is it done?

Circumcision is carried out for medical or religious reasons. Medical reasons for circumcision include prevention of infection or a damaged foreskin.

## How is it done?

Circumcision is performed under anaesthetic in a hospital. It is a day case procedure which means the child can go home on the day of surgery once he has recovered.

## How does my child recover after circumcision?

Healing after a circumcision can take about 7-10 days for babies and up to 3 weeks for older children.

## What can be done to increase my child's comfort after the operation?

Your child will receive pain killers during the procedure which should ease discomfort after surgery.

Your child will also receive pain killers when he is in the hospital, but these will wear off when you get home.

Medicines such as paracetamol (Calpol or paralink) and Ibuprofen (Nurofen) are the usual pain killers that are given to children. Your child may require this medicine for up to a week after surgery.

Ask the nurse for the leaflet "Managing your child's pain at home"

Protecting the area with vaseline (petroleum jelly) will help prevent any irritation from clothing or nappies.



Sometimes distracting your child from thinking about their operation site can help too. Plenty of books and games that he can play quietly with are a good idea.

## What do I need to do after the operation?

It is important to observe for any complications such as infection.

### Signs of infection

- Swelling
- Redness
- Ooze or bleeding
- Increased pain

It is normal for the penis to be red & swollen for a few days after circumcision. However if it persists for longer you need to contact your GP or hospital.