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POST-OPERATIVE CARE CIRCUMCISION (PEDIATRIC)

Circumcision is the name of the surgery done to remove the foreskin from the head of the penis. It is done as day surgery, so you will bring your child to the hospital in the morning, and take him home with you later in the day.

THE INCISION: After the operation, the head of your child's penis will be exposed. Because the foreskin is usually adhered to the head of the penis in small children, removing it will cause the head of the penis to look a little red for a week or so until the skin toughens up. Foreskin by nature tends to swell very easily, so the penis will probably look puffy and swollen. This will completely resolve itself over the weeks following surgery.

In most cases your child's incision will have multiple sutures that run along the course of the incision. Expect some redness around the sutures. If there is generalized redness, especially with increasing pain or swelling, let us know. The penis will very likely get 'black and blue' as the blood in the tissues spreads. Sometimes the whole penis will turn colors. The black and blue is followed by a yellow and brown color. In time, all this coloration will go away.

Care of the penis after surgery is very simple. Keep the area dry for 48 hours. Sponge baths only during this time. Then he can have daily baths 5 to 10 minute soaks in comfortably warm water. Apply Polysporin or Neosporin ointment liberally to the incision 2 to 3 times a day, and after bathing. If the clear dressing does not fall off on it's own, you can peel it off in the bath after 2 to 3 days.

ACTIVITY: For two weeks after surgery your child should modify his activity to avoid trauma to the penis. For older children this means no rough-housing, no biking or straddle type toys, rollerblading or tree climbing. A good rule of thumb is "Keep your feet in the ground" for 2 to 3 weeks.

MEDICATION: Give Motrin (ibuprofen) or Tylenol (acetaminophen) according to package instructions. Motrin and Tylenol do not contain narcotics and are usually tolerated better, that is, fewer side effects. If the pain is not controlled with Motrin or Tylenol, you will have to let us know.

PROBLEMS YOU SHOULD REPORT TO US:

- ❖ Fever of 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit or greater
- ❖ Moderate or severe swelling under the skin or involving the penis.
- ❖ If the incision sites develop extreme redness, or are warm to the touch.
- ❖ If bleeding occurs that is continuous
- ❖ Drug reactions such as hives, rash, nausea, or vomiting

FOLLOW UP:

You should have a follow up appointment 10-14 days following surgery, if you do not have a follow up scheduled please call the office to schedule one. This visit is to check his incisions and progress and to answer any questions you may have.