



TEXAS UROLOGY

CIRCUMCISION CARE - BABY

Your baby's circumcision is the removal of the foreskin from around the glans penis (end of the penis). A circumcision is just like a scrape. As it heals, there will be a yellow, sticky appearance to the circumcised area. This is not pus. It is the same kind of yellow film that forms on your knee when you scrape it and it is healing. The main problem associated with circumcisions is either infection or bleeding. Some mild oozing from the circumcised area is normal. However, if you see bleeding from the circumcised area, as if there was a cut present, you need to get in touch with your pediatrician. Secondly, if you notice actual pus draining from the circumcised area associated with a lot of redness, swelling and tenderness, please contact your pediatrician. It usually takes a circumcision about a week to totally heal. Use a sponge bath until this has happened. Although the circumcision usually heals before the cord falls off, continue doing a sponge bath until the umbilical cord falls off regardless of the condition of the circumcision. Your baby may be a little fussy for a few days after the circumcision has been performed. This is quite normal. It may be helpful for the first day or two to loosely apply the diaper and avoid holding him tight to you. Your baby should have no difficulty with urination because circumcisions do not involve the urinary tract.

Care of Circumcisions

Type I

Babies circumcised using the Gomco method – when your physician performs a circumcision using the Gomco method, the entire procedure will be performed in the nursery. Your job is to keep the circumcision area clean while it heals. With each diaper change apply Vaseline to the circumcision area. The Vaseline prevents the penis from sticking to the diaper.

You may use the following method at least once a day to clean the circumcised area: take a clean washcloth and dip it in some warm water. Squeeze this all over the circumcised area. Air dry the circumcision or gently blot the area with a dry cloth. Then, reapply the Vaseline. As noted above, the circumcision should have healed in about a week.

Type II

Babies circumcised using a Plastibell technique – In this type of circumcision, your baby will have a plastic ring around the end of his penis when he goes home. This ring will gradually separate and fall off his penis in about 5-8 days. A dark brown or black ring encircling the plastic rim is perfectly natural and will disappear when the rim drops off.

There is no need to use Vaseline gauze for care of the Plastibell type circumcision. You should merely keep the area clean. The baby can be bathed and diapered just as if he had not been circumcised, however, the same method of bathing as described above works very well. Notify your doctor if the plastic ring has not fallen off within 8 days after the circumcision. In general, most circumcisions heal quickly without a problem. If you have questions about your circumcision, please contact your pediatrician.

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