



ROCKHAMPTON UROLOGY & CARDIOLOGY

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Infant Circumcision (up to 3 months)

This manual is for those who are considering having a circumcision procedure on your son.



What is circumcision?

Circumcision is a simple surgical procedure that involves the removal of the foreskin covering the end of the penis.

What are the benefits of circumcision?

- Improves hygiene and reduces the risks of inflammation and infection of the skin of the penis
- Eliminates the risk of phimosis (affects 1 in 10 males). Phimosis is a tight foreskin that cannot be pulled back fully, making cleaning under it difficult and can produce pain and bleeding during intercourse.
- Reduces the risk of penile cancer over 20-fold reduction
- Decreased the risk of the man's female partner being infected by Chlamydia or papillomavirus (produces cervical cancer in women)
- Decrease the risk of urinary tract infections
- reduces the risk of contracting HIV or STD infections

How we do the surgery

- The ideal time for surgery is within the first six weeks of age (small babies are less aware of the procedure). We do surgery on newborns up to 3 months old babies.
- The day of the surgery the baby needs to be fasting for a couple of hours (we use sugary water to feed the baby during the surgery that keeps the baby distracted and sedates the baby)
- 30 min before the surgery we use a high concentrated topical anesthetic cream around the penis to numb the area, needs this time to be absorbed, during this time please do not change the nappies, to avoid removing the cream. We also give a small dose of Panadol to reduce pain
- before the surgery we inject a small dose of local anesthetic to the penis to decrease pain

-The baby is feeding during the surgery with sugary water; be sure he burps after surgery to avoid discomfort with gas. If the baby is hungry after the procedure can be fed any time

-We start the surgery after prepping the area. The procedure takes less than 10 min.

-The Plastibel technique

The plastibel is a device that fits inside the foreskin, over the head of the penis.

A string is tied around the outside of the foreskin compressing the foreskin against the plastibel. This compression clamps off the blood flow. After 3-7 days the plastibel will separate from the penis

Post op care:

-The area usually gets inflamed, and the separation can be irregular, it doesn't look nice but once the swollen disappears it will be fine

-if the baby is showing some discomfort using small dose of Panadol to keep him comfortable, please do not use more than 2 days

-We recommend not having a full bath for the first 2 days after surgery

-During the healing period with the plastibel it is recommended to use chlorsig to decrease infections and to be stuck to the nappy

-the area can be cleaned gentle but do not manipulate to avoid dislodging the ring

-in around 2 weeks the baby is reviewed to check for adhesions and to confirm that the procedure went as planned

-Any concerns please get in contact with our office

Complications

Important: We don't expect complications, the main thing to check is if you see blood in the nappy more than 3-4 cm in diameter after surgery, needs to come back to the clinic as soon as possible to be checked. We recommend if you don't live locally to stay in town for at least 3 hours and make a nappy change to look for any sign of bleeding.

Potential complications:

Bleeding is very rare

Infection

Skin closing back over (when there is a lot of fat in the pubic region, the shaft of the penis can lie within this fat, with no so much penis being external. This gives rise to an increased risk of the skin closing back over the end of the penis after the circumcision.

Meatal stenosis narrowing of the urethra opening, rare.

Injury of the head of the penis (exceedingly rare)

Suboptimal cosmetic result, very occasionally a patient or parent may wish for more skin to be removed even after a successful circumcision. This is very uncommon. It is important to be aware that it can take 12 months for full healing of the wound to occur and the new collagen to form and tighten any baggy skin.