

**JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS**  
**Division of Pediatric Urology**  
**1800 Orleans Street**  
**Baltimore, MD 21287**  
**DR. GEARHART'S**  
**POST-OP CARE: CIRCUMCISION**

**WHILE YOU ARE STILL IN THE HOSPITAL:**

- Following surgery, after your son is fully awake, he will be encouraged to drink clear liquids.
- He will be discharged from the hospital when he is tolerating fluids. Nausea and vomiting are common after anesthesia and may last for 24 hours after surgery.
- Do not worry if you see a little spot of blood.

**UPON ARRIVAL HOME:**

- **DIET:**
  1. You may feed your child clear liquids (juices, jell-o, broth) and advance as tolerated, no fried/fatty foods for at least a day after surgery.
  2. Do not force feed, especially if your child is nauseous. His appetite will return to normal with time.
- **POST-OP CARE:**
  1. Your son may or may not have a dressing. If there is not a dressing it will be a liquid skin adhesive as a protective barrier. This barrier covering the sutures will gradually separate and fall off when the sutures get absorbed. This can take 1-3 weeks. If your child has a dressing it will be removed at the first clinic appointment or it may fall off on its own prior to the appointment. If it falls off please use Vaseline to the surgical site.
  2. Apply Vaseline to the tip of the penis several times a day, or at each diaper change.
  3. If there is any bleeding, immediately apply gentle pressure to the penis with a clean gauze pad. Hold pressure for approximately 3 minutes. If the bleeding stops, nothing further needs to be done. If the bleeding continues, notify the doctor immediately.
- **ACTIVITY:**
  1. For **3 weeks** avoid bicycles, climbing bars, straddling toys, and similar activities. Do not carry your son on your hips.
  2. Your son may ride in the car with the seat belt in their usual position and may walk up and down steps.
  3. Your son may not go to school until after the post-op visit, unless directed by your doctor.
- **MEDICATION:** Your child will be given Oxycodone for pain relief. Please administer this medication for the first 2-3 days. For any further discomfort or after the 2-3 days give your child ibuprofen as directed.
- **BATHING:** Sponge bathe your child for 7 days, keeping the penis dry. Begin regular baths/showers after 7 days limiting the time to 5 minutes. After the bath/shower please use a blow dryer on low heat to help dry the penis.
- **COMMON FINDINGS:**
  1. The penis may swell and look raw and red. You will see stitches on the penis, these will NOT be removed.
  2. Bruising at the base of the penis and scrotum is NOT unusual and will disappear in a short period of time.
  3. The penis will have several areas of greenish-yellow scabs, **THESE ARE NORMAL SIGNS OF HEALING.**
  4. The most common causes of post-op fevers are colds or ear infections.
  5. If there is mild discomfort with urinations, do not be alarmed. This will resolve shortly. Encourage him to drink plenty of fluids to alleviate this discomfort.

**PLEASE CALL YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU NOTICE:**

- Fever over 101.5 degrees
- Extreme pain, redness, and/or bleeding at the site.

**POST-OP OFFICE VISITS:** Your child should be seen in the office 7-10 days after discharge, unless otherwise directed by your doctor. Please schedule an appointment by calling the office at 410-955-6108.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS:** Please call the clinic nurse Karen Spriggs at 410-614-6304, Monday through Friday 8AM-4PM.

**AFTER HOURS OR IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY**, please call the residents on-call at 410-955-6070.