

CIRCUMCISION

What is Circumcision ?

Boys are born with a hood of skin that covers the head of their penis called the foreskin. Circumcision is a surgical procedure to remove the foreskin. Routine circumcision of a newborn baby boy takes about 5 to 10 minutes. It is a very common day care procedure done in hospitals (patient is discharged the same day of the surgery).

What are the benefits of Circumcision ?

Circumcision has many health benefits.

- Better hygiene : easier to wash the penis
- Lowers the risk of urinary tract infections (UTIs), especially in the first year of life
- In adults, circumcised males may have a lower risk of contracting some sexually transmitted diseases.

Circumcision does not affect fertility.

Who gets Circumcision done ?

Circumcision is a religious

What are the risks associated with Circumcision ?

The most common complications associated with circumcision are bleeding and infection. Side effects related to anesthesia are possible as well.

Where and how should Circumcision be done ?

It should always be done in a hospital environment under general anaesthesia by a pediatric surgeon.

What can you expect after Circumcision ?

Following circumcision, it is important to keep the area as clean as possible. Gently clean with warm water – do not use diaper wipes. It usually takes between 7 to 10 days for a penis to heal. Initially the tip may appear slightly swollen and red and you may notice a small amount of blood on the diaper. You also may notice a slight yellow discharge or crust after a couple of days. This is part of the normal healing process.

If you notice any of the following problems, contact your doctor right away:

- persistent bleeding
- increasing redness

- fever
- signs of infection, such as worsening swelling or discharge
- not urinating normally within 12 hours after the circumcision

However, with quick intervention, almost all circumcision-related problems are easily treated.

The Circumcision Decision

Parents should learn the facts about circumcision and weigh the pros and cons. In addition to considering the medical factors, religious and cultural beliefs might play a role. If these are important to you, they deserve to be seriously considered.

Talk to a pediatric surgeon to help you make the choice that's right for your son.

- or cultural ritual for many Jewish and Islamic families, as well as certain aboriginal tribes in Africa and Australia.
 - Phimosis is a medical condition which needs circumcision, in which the foreskin is too tight to be pulled back (retracted) over the glans causing discomfort while passing urine.
- Parents should talk with their pediatric surgeon/ pediatrician about the benefits and risks of the procedure before making a decision regarding circumcision of a male child.

