

An Information Leaflet for Parents of Children Undergoing Circumcision

Rainbow Unit (Children & Young Persons)

Your son has undergone an operation called circumcision. This involves removing the foreskin from around the tip of the penis because of tightness, which may have caused infections.

There will be stitches placed around the area where this piece of skin has been removed. These stitches do not need to be taken out; they should dissolve away over the next 2-3 weeks. This may look rather untidy at first but will improve as the wound heals over the first ten days or so. Remember it can look a lot worse before it gets better.

It is advisable that the penis is kept dry whilst healing takes place. Please do not apply any creams or ointments to the area.

During the healing period you will notice that the penis will look swollen and bruised, this is perfectly normal. You should contact the hospital for advice if your son has any bleeding from the operation site, difficulty-passing water or has a smelly discharge from the penis. It is normal to experience some discomfort, which can be relieved by giving a painkiller such as Paracetamol.

If you are unsure of the dose and how often to give it, please refer to the instructions on the bottle. If you are still unsure please contact the ward or your GP for advice.

Remember:- Too much Paracetamol can be dangerous.

When at all possible the area should be left exposed. Some boys become embarrassed about this and sometimes parents have made protective 'boxes' to place in the underpants.

Normal play activities can be undertaken as the child feels able. Please make sure, however, he does not injure himself until the wound is fully healed. It may occasionally be necessary to take 2 weeks or more off school.

If you have any queries or worries about your son's operation do not hesitate to contact the nursing staff on:- 01633 – 234014.