

Information for Patients



Circumcision



What is a circumcision?

A circumcision is an operation to remove the foreskin (the skin covering the head of the penis, also called the glans).

It is usually performed to treat problems with the foreskin, such as tightness (phimosis), pain, ballooning during urination, or recurrent infections.

Circumcision is usually performed under a general anaesthetic. It is a day surgery procedure.

Because you will have had a general anaesthetic, **you must not drive** on the day of surgery. Please arrange for someone to take you home afterwards.

What happens during the operation?

During the procedure:

- The foreskin is removed - The remaining skin is closed together using dissolvable stitches or surgical skin glue.
- Ointment may be applied - You may be given a tube of ointment to use at home.

What to expect after my operation

Dressings and wound care

You will go home with either:

- No dressing, or
- A small dressing over the wound

You will also be given ointment. This is a non-stick ointment that:

- Reduces the risk of the wound sticking to your underwear

Apply a light layer of ointment to the wound twice daily. Continue using it until the wound is dry, usually for 3 to 5 days after surgery.

Showering and hygiene

- You may shower the day after surgery.
- Daily showering is recommended to keep the area clean.
- Children should avoid baths for 5 days but may shower or be gently sponged.

Healing and recovery

- Dissolvable stitches take **4 to 6 weeks** to fully dissolve.
 - Surgical skin glue takes **5-10 days** to fall off on its own and up to 2 weeks to completely disappear.
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- The area may feel uncomfortable for **7 to 10 days**.
- Passing urine is usually not painful.
- Wearing firm, supportive underwear can help reduce discomfort.
- You can return to normal daily activities when comfortable, usually after **2 to 4 days**.
- Sexual activity can usually resume after **6 weeks** - Some men notice increased sensitivity of the penis after circumcision. This is common and usually settles with time.

Bleeding

A small amount of bleeding is normal after the procedure.

If bleeding occurs at home:

- Apply gentle but firm pressure to the area.
- If bleeding does not stop with pressure, please contact Urology Associates.



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