

Caring for Your Child
UNDESCENDED TESTICLE/ORCHIOPEXY

A boy's testicles should come down into his scrotum by the time he is born. When a boy's testicle does not rest in the scrotum, it is called an **undescended testicle**. The procedure to bring the testicle down into the scrotum is called an **orchiopexy**. Generally a small incision will be made in the groin area and in the scrotum. The testicle is pulled down and placed in a small pouch in the scrotum and attached with stitches. Your child may be able to have his orchiopexy done with a laparoscopic surgery; your physician will discuss this with you.

AFTER THE OPERATION

Your child will go home the same day as the surgery.

Dressing

Your child will have an incision in his groin area and one or two small incisions on his scrotum. The incisions may be covered with a **Dermabond** or a small dressing. **Dermabond** is a clear dressing that will fall off on its own. It does not need any special care. Your child will have stitches underneath the skin, which will dissolve. They do not need to be removed.

Appearance

Scrotal swelling and black and blue discoloration is normal after the orchiopexy and like a black eye, will slowly go away over the next three weeks.

The incisions may feel lumpy after surgery; this is the "healing ridge". It is normal. The incision will become smooth over the next six months.

If your child has bleeding that is soaking the dressing, apply gently pressure, not letting go, for 10 full minutes. If he continues to bleed, call the urology office or general surgery.

Diet

Your child can begin eating when he gets home. Start with clear liquids (apple juice, Popsicle, water ice). Add solid food slowly and in small amounts. Your child may vomit from anesthesia on the day of surgery. This should stop by the morning after surgery. Call the Anesthesia office at **215-590-1858** if the vomiting does not stop.

Bathing

Your child may take a bath or shower the day after the surgery.

Activity

Your child may not ride straddle toys (bikes, walkers, swings) for 2 full weeks after surgery. You should continue to use your car seat.

- Your child can go in a pool two days after surgery.
- He may return to school when comfortable, usually within 3-5 days.
- He may not join in gym class or sports for 3 weeks after surgery.

Pain Management

Your child may complain of pain that may feel like a severe pulled muscle. You will be sent home with a prescription for Tylenol with codeine. Give as directed for pain. After a few days you should switch to regular Children's Tylenol as the codeine may cause constipation.

Bowel Movements

If he does not have a bowel movement within 24 hours after surgery you may give a pediatric glycerin suppository. These are available without a prescription, and should be given as directed on the bottle.

Post-op visit

After you return home, call the urology office or general surgery to schedule your follow-up appointment. Your surgeon will let you know when he will need to see you back in the office.

CALL THE DOCTOR IF:

- You see any signs of infection: redness along the incision site, increased swelling, and foul smelling drainage from incision.
- Your child's pain worsens or is not relieved by Tylenol.
- There is bleeding from the incision that does not stop after 10 full minutes of gentle pressure. (A small ooze of blood from the incision the first day of two is normal.)
- You have any questions or concerns.

PHONE NUMBERS

- ☐ Your child's surgery was performed by a **urologist**. If you have any questions or concerns, please call:
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: 215-590-2754
Weekends, Evenings, Holidays: 215-590-1000. Ask to speak with the Urologist on call.
- ☐ Your child's surgery was performed by a **general surgeon**: If you have any questions or concerns, please call:
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: 215-590-2730
Weekends, Evenings, Holidays: 215-590-1000. Ask to speak with the General Surgeon on call.