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Circumcision

What is a circumcision?

Circumcision is an operation to remove the foreskin (the sleeve of skin around the tip of the penis).

Why is the operation needed?

Circumcision is carried out on boys who have either a very tight scarred foreskin or a history of recurrent, troublesome infections. (This operation may also be carried out for religious/cultural reasons). Risks are rare, but include bleeding and infection.

The operation

The operation is carried out as a day case under general anaesthetic. Dissolvable stitches are used, which may take a few weeks to dissolve completely.

After the operation

- Your son should be given regular pain relieving medicine, such as Paracetamol, for the first 48 hours. Always read and follow the instructions on the packet.
- Your son can have a daily bath from the day after his operation until his wound has healed.
- A dressing is put on the penis, which usually falls off when urine is passed. There is no need to replace it.
- Your son should rest at home for a couple of days and then return to school, but should not take part in any sport until his penis has healed and is dry, which usually takes about 10-14 days.

When to seek help?

Please contact me if your son has:

- Persistent pain, swelling or redness.
- Bleeding from the operation site.
- Difficulty passing urine.

Where should I seek advice or help?

For further information, contact Ward 24 on 01753 634624 in the first 24 hours following discharge, Bridge Clinic or your GP.	