

**Mr Andrew Gordon MS FRCS  
The Bridge Clinic  
Oldfield Lodge  
Bridge Road  
Maidenhead  
Berks  
SL6 8DG**

**Telephone 01628 780200  
Email: [ag@andrewcgordon.co.uk](mailto:ag@andrewcgordon.co.uk)**

## **Hydrocoele**

**What is a hydrocoele?**

During pregnancy, a boy's testicles form in the abdomen and then descend through a passage into the scrotum – a hydrocoele or fluid filled sac can develop if this passage fails to close fully.

**What are the signs of a hydrocoele?**

The testicle or scrotum can look swollen and feel like a water filled balloon, but it is not painful.

**How is a hydrocoele treated?**

The passage may close spontaneously in the early years and so the hydrocoele resolves itself however, if your son's hydrocoele does not resolve on its own, an operation will be needed.

**The operation**

The operation is usually carried out as a day case and under a general anaesthetic. The surgeon will make a small cut in the groin area, locate and close the passage. The wound is stitched on the inside of the skin, so will you not be able to see any of the stitches.

**Discharge advice**

- Your son's wound should be kept clean and dry and he can have a bath the day after the operation.
- Your son should feel well enough to return to school after a couple of days.
- We advise that your son can return to usual sports activities after a week to ten days.
- Pain relieving medicines such as Paracetamol or Ibuprofen should be given on a regular basis for the first couple of days following the operation. Please read and follow the directions on the packet.

**Where should I seek advice or help?**

The hospital, Bridge Clinic or your GP.