

After-Circumcision Care Instructions

After circumcision, infants generally heal quickly and well without significant assistance. However, it is a good idea to keep some simple principles in mind.

1. Comfort – Infants are generally fussy for 3-4 days after the circumcision. Beyond tender loving care, it is fine to give Acetaminophen (160 mg per 5 ml solution). The dose for an average infant is 1.25 ml every 4 hours.
2. Lubrication – A healing circumcision can be sticky due to bleeding and scabbing. Please apply Vaseline lubrication (alternatives include Neosporin ointment or A & D lubricant) regularly and generously.
3. Bleeding – It is common to have small bleeding for 2-3 days after the surgery. If oozing persistently then hold pressure with gauze at the site of bleeding for 5-10 minutes and then check it again 3 hours later. If persistent bleeding then please call me or your pediatrician.
4. Infection – It is normal for the healing penis to have mild swelling, yellow/green scabbing, and appear scratched up on the head of the penis. Worrisome signs include draining pus, redness spreading into groin, persistent bleeding, or significant swelling. If you see any of these please call me as soon as possible.
5. Bathing – It is good to keep the healing site clean and dry but this is, of course, the diaper area. Clean off any poop gently with wash cloth or wipes. He can be bathed but I would coat the area in Vaseline prior to bathing. Be sure to dry it off well after bathing.
6. Adhesions happen! Be sure to gently retract any residual foreskin gently to prevent it from sticking to the head of the penis.

I certainly take pride in my work. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email.

Dr. Bruce Birk