

Orchiopexy Repair

Care After Surgery

Orchiopexy repair is a surgery to move your child's testicle(s) into the scrotum when your child has an undescended testicle. For more information, read our handout "Undescended Testicles". seattlechildrens.org/pdf/PE984.pdf

Where can I watch videos that explain how to care for my child after surgery?

We created videos to explain how to care for your child after surgery. You can search for these titles on YouTube. You may need to login due to age restrictions.

- "How to Care for Your Child After Hernia and Testicular Surgery" youtube.com/watch?v=kKgvtiGyTLE
- "How to Care for Your Child After Penile Surgery" youtube.com/watch?v=ppZeEKY848M



When may my child eat?



- We will start with a light diet.
 - When your child is fully awake, they may have clear liquids like 7UP, Jell-O, Popsicles and apple juice.
 - Nausea and throwing up (vomiting) are common after surgery. If this happens, give your child a small amount of clear liquids at a time.
 - If your child is not sick to their stomach (nauseous) or throwing up (vomiting) and is fully awake, start their regular diet.
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How do I care for the surgery site?



- We use skin glue (Dermabond) to cover the incision. This will usually peel off on its own in 10 to 14 days.
 - You can expect mild redness and bruising under the skin glue.
 - We will use small stitches to close the skin. These stitches will dissolve over the next month and do not need to be removed. You likely won't see any stitches on the outside of the skin - but you may see 1 or 2 stitches that will dissolve over the next month.
 - The scrotum may be bruised and swollen up to twice the normal size after surgery. It may take several weeks or months for them to return to their normal size. If the bruising or swelling does not go down, please bring your child back to a clinic appointment.
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To Learn More

- Urology
206-987-2509
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

Can my child take a bath, shower, swim or get wet?



- It is ok to sponge bathe your child after surgery. Avoid showers and baths for 48 hours (2 days) after surgery.
- It is ok for showers or baths after 2 days, but do not soak for longer than 10 minutes.
- It is ok to rinse off poop even if it is before the 2-day bath cutoff.
- No swimming in large bodies of water for 2 weeks (pools, rivers, lakes or oceans).

How much activity can my child do?

Watch your child closely on the day of the surgery. See the sections below based on your child's age.

If your child is younger than 2 years of age:



- Younger children will limit their own crawling, walking and activities.
- Avoid any straddle activities with your child that would increase pressure between the legs for 2 weeks.
- Do not:
 - Hold your child on your hip
 - Bounce your child on your knee
 - Use baby-wearing devices
 - Use bouncer toys that have a harness
- Car seats and stroller straps are safe. Use as instructed by the manufacturer.

If your child is 2 years of age or older:



- Avoid strenuous activities, rough-housing or activities that involve straddle-activity. A good rule of thumb is to keep both of your child's feet on the ground for 2 weeks.
- Do not let your child do the following for 2 weeks after surgery:
 - Jungle-gyms/climbing
 - Gym or physical education (PE) class
 - Bicycle/tricycles
 - After-school sports

When can my child return to school?

Your child may return to school when no longer requiring opioid pain medications or frequent daytime over-the-counter pain medications.

Will my child have pain?

- After, surgery your child will likely feel pain in the groin and scrotum. Your child should feel better the next day.
- We partner with you and your child to relieve pain as completely as possible. You know your child best. We encourage you to take an active part in your child's recovery. No matter the level of your child's pain, believe they are hurting and respond right away.

How do I manage my child's pain?



- Effective pain control will help your child feel better and heal faster. Start by giving your child acetaminophen (Tylenol) alternating every 3 hours with ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) for the first 2 days after surgery and then you will use it as needed. Check with the healthcare provider first before giving any type of medicine to your child.
- If your child's healthcare provider prescribed an opioid medicine for pain, use this if the acetaminophen or ibuprofen does not help relieve pain.
- Tylenol and prescription pain medicine may not be safe to use at the same time. Check with your healthcare provider or pharmacy.
- In addition to medicine for pain, you can also help your child cope by distracting them with music, games, books, TV or videos.

How should I dispose of leftover opioid pain medication?

- To keep your family safe, store medicines inside a locked cabinet or location where others cannot easily get to them. Once your child has recovered from surgery, dispose of all unused medicines.
- Taking leftover pain or other medicines, on purpose or by accident, can be very dangerous.
- For more information about safe disposal of unused opioid medications, read our handout "Safe Use and Disposal of Opioid Medicines" (seattlechildrens.org/pdf/PE3140.pdf) or visit takebackyourmeds.org to find a take back place near you."

When should I call a doctor?



Monday to Friday, call the Urology Clinic at **206-987-2509** for questions of any of the concerns listed below. Send MyChart messages for non-urgent questions.

Nights, weekends and holidays, call **206-987-2000** and ask the hospital operator for the urology resident on call for urgent concerns from the following list:

- Fever higher than 101.5° F (38.6° C)
- Redness, swelling or fluid (discharge) from the surgery site
- Rapid swelling or bleeding at the site of surgery
- Pain not controlled by the medicine prescribed
- Cannot pee for a span of 8 hours after surgery
- Throwing up (vomiting) 4 or more times in 12 hours