

# Circumcision Photo Guide:

## What to expect after surgery

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### What to expect after your child has circumcision surgery

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These photos show examples of normal healing after circumcision surgery. You can use them as a guide to help you understand what to expect after your child's surgery. Every child and every surgery is unique. Healing tissue may look different on different skin tones. Contact your child's healthcare provider if you have any questions.

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#### Example 1



This penis is healing as expected. Notice the swelling is greater on 1 side than the other. The penis may seem bigger than usual in some parts (uneven swelling). This may make the penis point to 1 side until it gets better. The white / yellow area is not pus. It is a collection of skin oils and skin cells. This is part of the normal healing process.

#### Example 2



This penis is also healing as expected. There is less swelling but more healing tissue on the surface of the head of the penis (the glans). As the new skin layers develop, this yellowed tissue will shed into new skin layers. This is normal.

#### To Learn More

- Urology  
206-987-2509
- General Surgery  
206-987-0237
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- [seattlechildrens.org](http://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.

### Example 3



This penis is drier and less red. This is normal healing. The yellow material is not pus. This collection of skin oil and skin cells is drying as the penis heals. You can protect this area with petroleum jelly (Vaseline) as it heals. There is also some darker color (bruising) after surgery which heals on its own. The swelling is more obvious from this angle and will get better with time.

### Example 4



The swelling is improving in this example. There is some bruising which can happen after surgery. This bruising will heal on its own. Notice that the skin color is becoming more neutral. There are new skin layers replacing the yellow matter in the picture above.

### What if I have any questions or concerns?

If you have any questions, call your child's specialty surgery clinic during the day. After hours, call 206-987-2000 and ask the hospital operator for the on-call general surgeon or on-call urology surgeon depending on which service did your child's surgery.