

## How can I help my child after the operation?

Your child will remain in hospital from 5-7 days after the operation.

It is quite normal for your child to feel uncomfortable for a few days after the operation. Your child will receive pain relief and anti bladder spasm medication from the nurse while in hospital. The leaflet "Managing your child's pain at home" will help inform you when at home.

Ensuring your child receives a healthy diet and adequate water can help prevent constipation while your child is on bed rest after surgery.

Encourage gentle play and avoid straddle toys, contact sports and swimming until advised by the consultant usually after your 1<sup>st</sup> appointment.

Discuss with the consultant how soon your child can return to school/playgroup. Most children will be able to return to school about 2 weeks after the surgery.



You should call your GP or the children's surgical ward if:

- Your child is in a lot of pain despite taking regular medicine.
- There is any excessive amount of blood or ooze on the bandage or around the penis.
- Your child develops a fever higher than 38°C and has obvious redness around the penis indicating infection.

**Returning to hospital for check-up in Children's OPD.**

Two to four weeks after surgery your child will be due back to hospital for a check-up with the consultant surgeon to make sure all is well. You should receive an appointment before you go home for this check-up.



Developed by the Nursing Practice Development Team in The National Children's Hospital. AMNCH. Tallaght, Dublin 24. June 2009.



## Care of your child following "Hypospadias Repair"



Statement of Values

Respect - Caring - Openness - Partnership - Teamwork Fairness & Equality

Patient Information Leaflet

THE ADELAIDE & MEATH HOSPITAL,  
DUBLIN  
INCORPORATING THE NATIONAL CHILDRENS  
HOSPITAL

## What is Hypospadias?

A condition that a boy is born with which affects the appearance and function of the penis.

## How can it be treated?

An operation is required to help improve the appearance and function of the penis. Usually one but sometimes two operations are required. You can discuss surgery options with your child's surgeon.

## Preparation before admission to hospital

It is important to prepare your child for hospital and operation to help alleviate anxiety. Talk to him about what goes on in hospital for example doctors and nurses help people who are sick to get better and go home again. Be realistic with your child explain that he may feel sore after the operation but that it won't be for long and the nurse will give him medicine to help take the pain away. Tell him that a parent/guardian can stay with him at all times to comfort him. Only promise rewards that can be kept or delivered afterwards.



## Preparation before surgery

Please check with the doctor and nurse what time you should fast your child from before coming into hospital. Surgery is either scheduled for the morning or afternoon. Fasting times are therefore approximate and depend on what time your child's operation is scheduled.

Please read the leaflet, "So your child is Coming to Theatre" for more information.

## What happens after the operation?

Your child will spend a short time in the recovery bay and you may go with the nurse to collect your child from surgery and bring him back to the ward.

He can eat and drink soon after the operation, just check with the nurse looking after him before giving him anything to eat or drink.

## What happens after the operation?

Your child will have a tube (catheter) coming out of his penis which is attached to a small drainage bag to collect urine. The tube drains urine from your child's bladder so he will not need to pass urine in the toilet. The tube may make him feel like he needs to pass urine, you can help by trying to distract him from pulling at the tube or the bandage.

Your child may also have an intravenous drip (IV) in their arm to help keep him hydrated after surgery. It will be removed once your child is drinking well and is able to take his medication by mouth.

## Distraction

There are plenty of books & games in the hospital to entertain your child and alleviate boredom while he is confined to bed. There is a hospital playroom and school room where your child can receive toys and work to do at their own bedside. He can bring his own favourite toy to hospital with him.