

Patient Education

Circumcision



Circumcision

Circumcision is removal of the foreskin of the penis.

Procedure risks

As with any operation, complications are always possible. With this type of surgery, complication could include:

- Bleeding.
- Swelling.
- Bruising.
- Infection.

Preparing for the procedure

- It is important that your stomach be empty before surgery. You will receive instructions from the Pre-Anesthesia Clinic regarding when to stop eating and drinking. If in doubt, stop at least 8 hours before the surgery.
- Bathe or shower the morning of your surgery.
- Bring a list of medications, your health card and leave valuables at home.
- Bring a bag (or backpack) to leave your clothes/ shoes in. Leave your valuables at home as WPSHC is not responsible for valuables.
- Take all routine morning medications at 6:00 a.m. with a sip of water, unless otherwise instructed.
- *If you are on diabetic or blood thinning medications, check with your Surgeon or Pre-Anesthesia Clinic regarding whether you need to stop them or adjust the doses.*
- A responsible adult must be arranged to accompany you home and stay with you overnight.
- Pre-operative screening tests (blood work, ECG, etc) may be needed before your surgery. The Pre-Anesthesia Clinic will decide which tests are necessary and will arrange for you to go to the Laboratory. In some cases, it may be necessary to see an Anesthetist or Internist prior to be cleared for surgery.

WE CARE FOR PEOPLE

Compassion • Accountability • Rights & Responsibilities • Excellence

The information contained in this document are for information purposes only. They are not intended to be used as or replace medical advice given by a qualified health care provider.

Procedure outline

When you arrive for your surgery, you will need to register in the Patient Registration Department. Once you are registered you will be directed to the Day Surgery Department. There, you will be asked to change into a hospital gown and housecoat

- A nurse will then check your blood pressure, pulse, oxygen level and weight and review your health history with you.
- You will be taken to the waiting area where an Operating Room nurse will meet you and accompany you to the OR where you will meet your anesthesiologist and surgeon and an intravenous will be started by a nurse.
- Following the procedure you return to the Day Surgery Department.

Experience following the procedure

- You will have a dressing on your penis. It can be removed 24 hours after surgery.
- Apply polysporin ointment on the incision line 2 times a day for 2 weeks.
- Absorbable stitches will be used.
- Over-the-counter relievers are usually adequate for your discomfort or you may receive a prescription from your Surgeon.

What can I do following my surgery?

- Ask your Surgeon when to restart medications such as aspirin, Coumadin, or anti-inflammatory drugs.
- You may shower or bathe, gently pat the incision dry.
- You may require assistance with dressing.
- For the first 24 hours lie down as often as possible.
- Avoid conditions that may arouse you sexually as an erection of your penis could be painful and put a strain on the stitches.
- Wear loose comfortable clothes to go home in and the type of shorts (boxer or jockey) that keep you most comfortable.
- You can engage in sexual activity when all the stitches have dissolved.

Call your Surgeon if you notice any of the following symptoms:

- A persistent fever above 38.6°C (101°F) or chills.
- Increased redness or swelling around the incision sites.
- Any foul smelling drainage or discharge from the incisions.
- Severe pain or swelling of the penis.
- Severe bleeding.
- Persistent nausea or vomiting.
- Cannot pass urine.

If you cannot reach your Surgeon go to the Emergency Department of the nearest hospital to your location.

WE CARE FOR PEOPLE

Compassion • Accountability • Rights & Responsibilities • Excellence

The information contained in this document are for information purposes only. They are not intended to be used as or replace medical advice given by a qualified health care provider.