



Children's Urology Group, PL

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LAPAROSCOPIC ORCHIDOPEXY/VARICOCELECTOMY

POSTOPERATIVE CARE OF YOUR CHILD

WHILE YOU ARE STILL IN THE HOSPITAL

1. Following surgery, your child will be encouraged to drink clear liquids when he is fully awake.
2. He will be discharged home from the hospital when he is tolerating the fluids without vomiting. Nausea and vomiting are common reactions to the anesthesia.

UPON YOUR ARRIVAL HOME

LAPAROSCOPY

1. It is very common for your child to experience shoulder pain after laparoscopic surgery. This occurs because of irritation to the diaphragm from the gas used to fill the abdomen. It will resolve in a few days.

BANDAGE/SURGICAL SITE

1. No special care is required for the surgical site.
2. The band-aids may be removed in 2 days.
3. The small bandage strips underneath the band-aids will peel off within one week. Once they have fallen off, there is no need to cover the wound with a new bandage.
4. Do not worry if you see a little blood spotting through the bandage or on the scrotum.
5. You **DO NOT** need to replace the bandage even if it falls off on the day of surgery.
6. Expect some swelling and bruising in the region of the surgical site and the scrotum. There also may be some puckering of the skin at the incision. These changes will resolve over the course of the next few weeks.
7. There will occasionally be a plastic button sewn to the scrotum. This should fall off on its own within week or 2. It is ok if it falls off right away.

DIET

1. You may feed your child juices, Jell-O and clear broth for the first postoperative day/evening. You may gradually start him on regular solid foods that evening.
2. Resume a regular diet the next morning.

MEDICATIONS

1. You should give your child **plain Tylenol** (acetaminophen) **every 4 - 6 hours** for the first 24 hours. (DO NOT awaken your child to administer a dose).
2. For severe pain your doctor may have prescribed **Tylenol with codeine**. Use this as directed on the bottle.

ACTIVITIES

1. AVOID any vigorous activity including straddling toys, bicycle, tricycle riding, or monkey bars for 2 weeks.
2. Your child may walk up and down stairs, sit in a high chair and ride in the car with all straps of the infant/child safety seat/high chair in place.
3. He may swim in a pool in one week and in a lake and salt water only after he has returned for the 2-week check-up in the office.
4. Return to school or daycare should be individualized. He may return one week after surgery if adequate supervision is available to protect against a direct blow to the wound, or use of straddle toys.
5. For older boys, a scrotal support/jock strap should be worn for the first week after surgery.

BATHING

1. Sponge bathe your child for the first 5 days. Regular bathing may resume after three days unless otherwise directed by your doctor.
2. You may bathe your child with the dressing in place. He may sit in a bath of warm water only (no soaps or additives to the water) for a maximum of 10 minutes, 2 - 3 times per day. This will help to alleviate discomfort and swelling. You may use soap to wash him in a routine fashion.
3. If the dressing begins to fall off, you may remove it.

FEVER

1. If your child has a temperature below 102F give Tylenol as directed.
2. For a temperature of 102F or higher give Tylenol and please notify the doctor.

WHEN TO CALL THE DOCTOR:

If your child develops a fever of more than 101.5 degrees (102.5 degrees rectally).

If your child's incision sites develop extreme redness, or are very warm to the touch.

If you notice very thick, copious discolored drainage from the incision site.

If the scrotum becomes increasingly swollen or tense.

If bleeding occurs that is continuous.

DIAPERS (if your child is currently in diapers)

1. Double diaper your child for added protection of the operative site for the first few days.
2. Change your child's diapers more frequently during the first postoperative week.

POSTOPERATIVE OFFICE VISIT

1. Please schedule a postoperative visit for 2 weeks following the date of surgery (unless otherwise directed by your doctor) by calling the nearest office during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

St. Petersburg: 727.456.1055

Tampa: 813.874.7500

To reach the doctor after the above hours and on weekends, the answering service will direct you from the above telephone numbers.