

# Post Circumcision Care

① **Check the circumcision site at each diaper change for the first 24 hours.** While the wrap around gauze is in place (up to 24 hours), apply additional Vaseline® to the gauze at each diaper change. If the gauze should fall off before 24 hours, or if it needs to be removed earlier because it is soiled with stool, begin the application of Vaseline® by applying a generous amount to a 4x4 gauze pad (folded in half) and placing it directly on the head of the penis. The Vaseline® will then spread out over the circumcision site.

② **If the gauze is still in place after 24 hours,** remove it. It should come off easily. At that point, begin an additional 24 hours of Vaseline® application on a 4x4 gauze pad (folded in half) and placing it directly on the head of the penis.

③ **If the wrap around the gauze appears to be stuck to the penis,** (usually from failing to apply Vaseline® in sufficient quantity in the first 24 hours), it can be loosened by applying a warm, wet washcloth over the penis and closing the diaper over the washcloth for five minutes. After five minutes, remove the washcloth and the gauze. Begin the application of Vaseline® with a 4x4 gauze pad as indicated above.

④ **Spotting** in the diaper is normal for the first 24 hours.

⑤ **Bleeding** is defined as bright red blood that soaks through the diaper. *This should be reported at once to Dr. Gottesman.*

⑥ **Keep the diaper securely fit** to avoid any irritation of the circumcised area.

⑦ **Sponge baths are permitted,** but avoid immersion in tub baths until 48 hours after the circumcision or after the umbilical cord falls off — whichever comes later.

⑧ **Pain medication after circumcision is not usually needed** if there is adequate application of Vaseline® for the first 48 hours. However, if your baby appears to be unusually fussy on the day of circumcision, a single dose of Children's Liquid **TYLENOL**® (1.25 ml) may be given.

⑨ **After the first 24 hours,** begin to gently push down on the remaining rim of foreskin (known as the corona) to make sure that no stool has accumulated and to prevent this area from becoming stuck.

## NOTE

The tip of the penis following the circumcision is normally maroon red. This is **normal**. During the 7-10 days following the circumcision, the redness will fade and the head of the penis will become the same color as the rest of the penile shaft.

A white/yellowish material (exudate) may be seen on the penis within 2-3 days after the circumcision. This is part of the normal healing process and **not** a sign of infection. Keep the circumcised area clean but **do not** remove this exudate. The exudate area will disappear as the circumcision heals.

Your baby should resume his normal feeding schedule fairly quickly but it is not unusual for a newly circumcised boy to sleep through the next feeding. If he is not feeding normally and wetting his diaper appropriately within 24 hours after the circumcision, notify Dr. Gottesman and the baby's pediatrician.

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