Remember: Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child’s care.

Additional instructions

Information for parents/guardians of a child/infant

Following:

- An ORCHIDOPEXY
- A HERNIA REPAIR

Or

- A HYDROCELE OPERATION

Developed by Staff of Surgical Day Unit

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DEFINITIONS for these procedures:

- **ORCHIDOPEXY**: Surgery to move an undescended testicle into the scrotum.

- **HERNIA REPAIR**: A surgical procedure for correcting a hernia, which is a bulging of internal organs or tissue.

- **HYDROCELE**: A painless swelling of the scrotum caused by a collection of fluid around the testicle.

Your child may have had one or more of these procedures under a general anaesthetic.

**Wound Care**

- The sutures in the skin are dissolvable. In addition there may be paper stitches called steristrips. A small dressing usually covers the wound.

- Keep wound dry for 5 days (i.e. no baths or showers) and then the outer dressing may be removed.

- If steristrips are present allow them to fall off or remove after 10 - 14 days if they are still present.

- Loose clothing should be worn for comfort around the site of surgery.

**Pain Relief**

Your child will be given pain relief in theatre.

- The pain relief given in theatre is usually a nerve block with local anaesthetic that can cause weakness/numbness in the legs. Your nurse will advise you if this was given. This will wear off after 4 - 6 hours. No walking is allowed until any weakness or numbness is gone.

- You will be given a pain relief leaflet informing you of the times to administer pain relief medication at home. Pain relief should be given at regular intervals, until your child is comfortable and pain free.

**Wound care following an Orchidopexy (undescended testes)**

It is usual to have one or two stitches in the scrotum which are dissolvable. The scrotum may appear swollen for a few days. If the swelling becomes excessive and you are concerned please seek medical attention.

- An out-patient appointment will be given to review the wound in 4 - 6 weeks.

**Signs of Infection**

- Pain localised in the wound area

- Swelling in and around the wound site

- Redness around wound

- High Temperature

Please observe for signs of infection and please seek medical attention if you are concerned.

**ACTIVITIES**

- Your child should not attend school until he is able to walk comfortably.

- School games, sports, swimming and cycling should be avoided until your child is reviewed in outpatients.