

Orchiopexy surgery for undescended testicles (cryptorchidism)

What is cryptorchidism?

Cryptorchidism is when the testicles do not drop down into the scrotum.

What is orchiopexy?

Orchiopexy is surgery to fix cryptorchidism. It replaces the testicles into the scrotum.

How should I care for my child after surgery?

Talk with the doctor about specific care for your child. Some guidelines include:

- Give your child pain medicines as ordered.
- If your child is taking an antibiotic, give it exactly as ordered. Keep giving it even if your child feels better.
- Keep the area clean and dry for 2 to 4 days.
 - Give your child only sponge baths during this time.
 - Most often, you may begin tub baths after this time.
- If your child still wears diapers, gently clean the incisions with warm water with each diaper change. Put an antibiotic ointment on the incisions after cleaning.
- A small amount of bloody drainage is normal.
- There may be bruising around the scrotum. This should heal on its own.

What else do I need to know?

- Stitches will dissolve over 7 to 10 days.
- Have your child wear loose-fitting clothes until their follow-up visit.
- Limit normal activities for 2 to 3 weeks. Have your child do quiet activities, such as reading, coloring or watching TV. Do not let them run, jump or climb.
- Protect your child's groin area from injury.
 - **DO NOT** allow your child to play on straddle or riding toys.
 - **DO NOT** straddle your child on your hip when you carry them for at least 2 weeks.
 - Have your child avoid gym class for at least 2 weeks.
- Your child may return to school 4 to 5 days after surgery if they feel well enough.

When should I call the doctor?

Call the doctor **right away** if your child has:

- Any signs of infection, such as redness, swelling or bad smelling drainage at the incision site.
- A fever over 101°F or fever that lasts for more than 24 hours.

Also call if you have any questions or concerns about how your child looks or feels.

This teaching sheet contains general information only. Talk with your child's doctor or a member of your child's healthcare team about specific care of your child.

In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.