

## Hydrocele

### Post-op Instructions

#### Appearance

- Your son will have a small incision in his groin area. The incision will be covered with Dermabond or surgical glue. There may be a dressing over the incision, which can be removed in \_\_\_\_\_ days.
- Your son will have stitches underneath the skin that will dissolve on their own and do not need to be removed.
- The scrotum and groin may appear black and blue with some swelling. This should improve over time.
- The incision may feel lumpy after surgery, but it should become smooth over the next six months.

#### Dressing/Wound Care

- Your son may have a dressing over the incision which can be removed in \_\_\_\_\_ days. If the dressing falls off before, there is no need to replace it.
- If your child has bleeding that is soaking the dressing, apply gentle pressure for 10 full minutes without letting go to look at area. If the bleeding continues, please call the office.

#### Activity/Bathing

- Your son may return to school or daycare when comfortable, usually 3-5 days.
- Your son may return to playing sports or going to gym class in \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.
- Your son may not use straddle toys (bikes, swings, walkers) for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks after surgery.
- Do not hold your son on your hip for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.
- You should continue to use your son's car seat.
- Give your son sponge baths for the first \_\_\_\_\_ days. Keep the dressing dry.
- Your son may bathe in the tub in \_\_\_\_\_ days. Your son may shower in \_\_\_\_\_ days.
- Use only warm water for the first bath (do not use soap) and gently pat the incision area dry without rubbing.

## Pain Management

- Children recovering from surgery may have some soreness.
- Give the medication as prescribed by your son's doctor on a regular schedule for the first 24 hours.
- Dress your child in loose fitting clothing.

## Nutrition/Bowel Movements

- Your child can return slowly his regular diet after surgery.
  - When you get home after surgery give foods to help prevent stomach upset- apple juice, popsicles, ginger ale, Jell-O, soup & crackers, or toast.
- Your child might vomit from the anesthesia on the day of surgery, but this should stop by the morning after surgery. Call the office if vomiting persists.

## Call the Hospital if your Child Experiences any of the Following:

- Bleeding from the incision.
- Fever of 101° F or higher that is not related to a cold or virus.
- Upset stomach or vomiting after the first day home.
- Pain that is not relieved by medication.
- You see any signs of infection like redness along the incision site, increased swelling, or foul-smelling drainage from the incision.

## Phone Number

Department of Urology – 508-334-8765

## Find this handout and more at:

<https://www.umassmed.edu/urology/patient-education/pediatric-patient-education/>