

**Introduction**

Circumcision is the excision of the prepuce of the penis to relieve the tightness that prevent the retraction of the foreskin over the glans. This operation can be done under general anaesthesia.

**Preoperative Preparation**

1. Admit 1 day before or on same day of this elective operation.
2. A written consent is required.
3. Anaesthetic assessment. **Inform your doctors** about drug allergy, regular medications or other medical conditions.
4. Keep fast for 6 to 8 hours before operation.
5. Empty bladder and change to operation clothes before transfer to operating room.
6. Pre-medication, antibiotic prophylaxis and intravenous line may be required.

**Postoperative Instruction****General**

1. Mild throat discomfort or pain because of intubation.
2. Mild discomfort or pain over the operation site. Inform nurses if more analgesics are required.
3. Nausea or vomiting are common; inform nurses if symptoms severe
4. Can mobilize and get out of bed 6 hours after operation and usually go home the following day.

**Wound care**

1. On the operation day, wound oozing is common and it will soon stop. If necessary, apply finger pressure for 5 minutes to stop bleeding.
2. No need for dressing at home but always keep the wound dry.
3. Take shower as usual the next day after operation but avoid soap and powder that will cause irritation.
4. Use cold boiled water or distilled water to cleanse the wound after each urination and bowel motion, then dry up with gauze.
5. There may be a little discomfort during urination, but it should be free from pain and dysuria.
6. Wear loose and comfortable clothes or protect the penis with a paper cup with a hole at the bottom to avoid pressure on the wound.
7. As the surgery has separated the penis from the tightly adhered prepuce, the raw area will show swelling and yellow scar appeared on the glans. Spontaneous healing is expected.
8. You can attend hospital clinic for wound care when there is a need.
9. Stitches will be absorbed within one to two weeks. Stitches removal is not necessary.

**Diet**

Resume diet usually 4 hours after anaesthesia, when taking sips of water well.

**Common Risks and Complications** (not all possible complications are listed)**Anesthesia related complications**

1. Cardiovascular: myocardial infarction or ischaemia, stroke, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, etc.
2. Respiratory: atelectasis, pneumonia, asthmatic attack, exacerbation of chronic obstructive airway disease.
3. Allergic reaction and shock.

**Procedure related complications**

You should consult the doctor if you have the following complications.

1. Excessive bleeding.
2. Severe pain despite taking pain killer.
3. Difficulty during urination.
4. Infection (redness, swelling and purulent discharge).
5. Fever (body temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).

**Things to take note on discharge**

1. Contact your doctor or the Accident & Emergency Department if you find increasing pain or redness around the wound and discharge from the wound.
2. Take analgesics prescribed by your doctor if required.
3. Resume daily activity gradually.
4. Avoid exercise, such as football and swimming in the following three weeks.
5. Sexual intercourse should be avoided in the first three weeks.

**Remarks**

This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information please contact your doctor. Evangel Hospital reserves the right to amend this leaflet without prior notice. We welcome suggestions or enquiries on the information provided in this leaflet. Please contact our Healthcare professionals so that we could follow up and make improvement.

**Reference**

Hospital Authority: "Information of Circumcision" (2021)  
Smart Patient: [https://www.ekg.org.hk/pilic/public/surgery\\_pilic/paed surg\\_circumcision\\_0193\\_eng.pdf](https://www.ekg.org.hk/pilic/public/surgery_pilic/paed surg_circumcision_0193_eng.pdf) (20-07-2023)