

Spire Children and Young People's Service

Patient information

Paediatric hypospadias repair

This leaflet provides some standard information and advice about your son's hypospadias repair. However, you should always follow the instructions of your child's consultant.

If you have any unanswered questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask your son's consultant or nurse for more information. It is natural to feel anxious, but knowing what to expect can often help.

The information contained in this leaflet is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice nor is it intended to be for medical diagnosis or treatment.



Children's Ward: 0161 447 6914



Out of Hours: 0161 447 6677



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Looking after you.



What is a hypospadias?

A hypospadias is a combination of three separate problems: the hole through which urine is passed is not at the tip of the penis, the foreskin is all at the back of the penis with none at the front and the penis may be bent when stiff.

These problems may prevent your son passing urine, standing up and when he is older or having a sexual relationship. All of these can be corrected by the hypospadias repair operation.

The procedure is done under a general anaesthetic, which means your son will be asleep throughout and not feel any pain.

About the operation

You will be encouraged to stay with your son as far as the anaesthetic room. Once your son is asleep the nurse will escort you back to their room.

Once your son is asleep, the consultant uses the skin on the penis to create a tube, which extends the length of the urethra so that a new hole can be created at the tip of the penis.

After the operation

Your child will be taken from the operating theatre to the recovery room, where they can come round from the anaesthetic under close supervision. Once your son begins to wake, the nurse will escort you to collect him and return to his room on the ward.

Once on the ward, the nurse will make your child comfortable and continue to observe him. Your son will need to rest on the bed or on your lap until the effects of the anaesthetic have passed.

Your son will have a thin plastic tube (catheter) draining urine from his bladder and a large dressing covering the penis. The catheter can irritate the inside of the bladder, causing 'bladder spasms', but your son will be given medicine to reduce this.

The consultant will come to see your child and discuss any findings from the operation and follow up care. Once your son has recovered sufficiently they will be able to go home.

Looking after your son at home

The dressing and catheter need to be kept in place for up to one week and your son will be unable to bathe whilst these are in place.

Care needs to be taken to ensure the dressing remains intact and clean. The nurse will explain how to look after these before you go home.

You should give your son regular pain relief for the first 48 hours and then as often as it seems to be needed. This will be explained to you before you leave the hospital.

Your son will need to come back to the hospital a week after the operation so that the dressing and catheter can be removed. This can be painful, so we advise you give your son the maximum dose of pain relief according to the instructions on the bottle prior to coming in.

When the dressing has been removed, the penis may look red and swollen. This is normal and will settle down within a few days.

Contact the hospital if your son develops any of the following symptoms:

- Your son develops a fever
- Your son is in a lot of pain and pain relief does not seem to help
- If there is oozing from the wound, i.e. bleeding, smelly discharge.
- If the dressing falls off
- If the tube falls out

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the paediatric team on 0161 447 6914 or main reception on 0161 447 6677.

Spire Manchester Hospital does not have an accident and emergency department therefore if your concerns are of a serious nature please seek immediate medical attention from your local accident and emergency department.