

Adult male circumcision

What is a circumcision?

A circumcision is surgery to remove the foreskin of the penis. You will have a general anesthetic and be asleep during the surgery.

How will I feel after a circumcision?

When you wake up in the recovery area, you may have pain and may have some nausea. Let your nurse know that you have these feelings. You may have some burning when you urinate. This is normal and should go away after the first day or 24 hours after surgery. You will have to urinate before going home.

How can I relieve the pain and swelling?

You will have some pain, swelling and discomfort for 5 to 7 days after surgery. You may feel more comfortable wearing loose clothing.

Pain medication will help. You will be given some pain medication in the hospital. Take the pain medication as prescribed by your doctor.

How do I care for my penis?

You may have some bruising after 1 or 2 days. This is normal and should get better each day. If you have consistent bleeding, apply pressure for 10 minutes with a damp cloth.

After a circumcision, the surgeon may or may not use a dressing.

Unless otherwise instructed by your surgery, you can shower 24 hours after surgery. If the dressing has not fallen off, gently remove after your shower.

You may be told to put Vaseline[®] or petroleum jelly on your penis to keep the skin soft.

When can I get back to my normal activities?

Your activity is based on your own comfort level. If you have any questions, talk with your surgeon.

When can I have sexual intercourse?

Talk with your surgeon about when it is okay to have sexual intercourse. Your activity is based on your own comfort level and how you are healing. It may take up to 4 weeks.

Follow-up

You may be seen by your surgeon.

If you have any questions, contact your surgeon or family doctor.

Call your surgeon if you have:

- persistent or sudden bleeding from the incision
- increasing pain, swelling or redness of the skin
- not urinated (pee) 8 to 10 hours after surgery
- a fever of 38°C (100°F) or higher