

# Male Circumcision

Male circumcision is the removal of the foreskin around the end of the penis. If you decide on circumcision, your baby's doctor will do it in the nursery. If your baby is small or has any medical problems, the circumcision may need to be done later. The doctor will have you sign a consent form before the circumcision is done.

## During the Procedure

- The doctor will put a numbing medicine gel on the penis.
- Your baby may be offered a pacifier dipped in sugar water to ease pain.
- Your baby's legs will be held still while the foreskin is removed.
- Vaseline gauze may be placed around the end of the penis for the first 24 hours. This is to prevent the penis from sticking to the diaper.
- The procedure will last 5 to 10 minutes.

## Your Baby

- Your baby may be fussy, not eat well or sleep more for the first 24 hours.
- Hold and comfort your baby.
- Redness, swelling and a small amount of bleeding may occur for the first 48 hours.
- As it heals, yellowish-white patches may appear. Do not try to wipe these off. The patches will go away as the circumcision heals.

## Care After Circumcision

- Clean the penis gently with warm water each day. Pat dry.
- Watch for signs of infection such as redness, swelling or a foul odor.
- Put a small amount of petroleum jelly such as Vaseline at the end of the penis. Do this for 5-7 days each time you change the diaper.
- Your baby can take a tub bath after the circumcision is healed and the umbilical cord has fallen off.

## Call Your Baby's Doctor if there is:

- A lot of bleeding or large areas of blood on the diaper
- Increased redness or swelling
- A foul odor

- No urine output within 12 hours of the circumcision

**Talk to your baby's doctor if you have any questions or concerns.**