

Further information can be obtained from:

NHS 111	Dial 111
Or contact your GP	
Bluebell Ward, Lister Hospital, Stevenage	01438 284008
Children's Day Services, Lister	01438 286315
Children's A&E, Lister	01438 284333
Urgent Care Centre, QEII Welwyn Garden City	01707 247549
Lister Community Children's Nurses	01438 284012
QEII Community Children's Nurses	01438 288370
Patient Advice and Liaison Service	01438 285811

Orchidopexy

Child Health Patient Information Leaflet



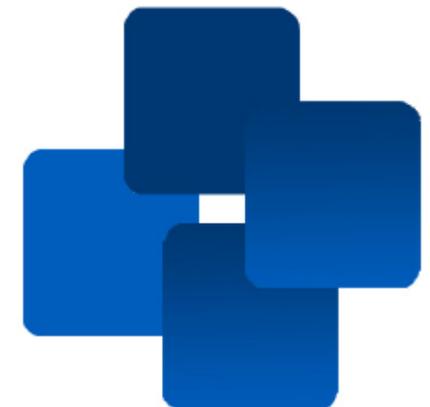
References

The information in this leaflet was taken from www.cks.nhs.uk

www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk

Date of publication: June 2007
Author: Paediatric Information Leaflet Group
Reference: CH/134L
Review Date: April 2019
© East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust

You can request this information in a different format or another language.



Introduction

The purpose of this leaflet is to explain Orchidopexy and post-operative advice.

What is an orchidopexy?

An orchidopexy is an operation performed to position the testicle in the correct place after closure of the inguinal canal.

What makes an orchidopexy necessary?

As a male baby grows and matures during pregnancy, the testicles develop in the abdomen and then move down into the scrotum through an area called the inguinal canal.

Shortly after the baby is born, the inguinal canal closes, preventing the testicles from moving back into the abdomen. Sometimes a testicle may not drop completely and if left outside the scrotum, the testicle would not grow normally.

What happens during an orchidopexy?

Your child will be admitted into hospital for a day and will need a general anaesthetic for the

The surgeon will make a small incision in the groin. The testicle is found and fixed in the scrotum with a dissolvable stitch. The surgical site wound is covered with a dressing.

Discharge

Your child will be checked over by the surgeon before being discharged home and an appointment will be made for you to bring your child back to the outpatient clinic in two weeks time.

Your child will have had a general anaesthetic. Anaesthetic drugs remain in the body for 24 hours or more and gradually wear off over this time. It is therefore important that your child remains with a responsible adult and will need to rest after discharge from hospital.

Post-operative advice

The dressing that has been used to cover your child's wound must be left in place for five days after their operation and kept dry. Bathing during this period should be avoided where possible to ensure good healing. Any stitches that were used to close the wound will dissolve and do not need to be removed.

A normal bathing routine can be resumed as soon as you feel it necessary. Do not use bubble bath or other additives in the water. Avoid swimming until the wound is completely healed. If you have any concerns please contact your GP or Children's Day Services for advice.

There will be some bruising and tenderness after the operation. It is recommended that you give regular pain relief for 24 hours post-operatively. Paracetamol or Ibuprofen should be sufficient. Your child's nurse will give you advice regarding this.

On your return home please encourage your child to drink plenty of fluids and offer him/her a light diet, avoiding greasy foods.

Risks

Whilst at home please be alert for any signs that the site of the surgery has become infected. These include:

- Your child being in a lot of pain, and the prescribed pain relief not working.
- Your child having a high temperature (fever) of 38°C (100.4°F) or above.
- The site of the surgery being red, inflamed and/or feeling hotter than the surrounding area.
- A discharge of fluid, or pus, from the site of the surgery.

If you notice any of these signs and symptoms, contact your GP as soon as possible for advice.