



## Pediatric Urology

### Care after a Hernia, Hydrocele, or Varicocele Repair

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Hernia surgery is done to repair a weakening or defect in the abdominal wall. A hydrocele is a collection of fluid around the testicle that causes swelling of the scrotum.

#### Activity

For the first one to two days following surgery, your son may not feel like being very active. He may increase the level of activity as the soreness goes away. Strenuous activities such as gym, contact sports, and swimming are not permitted for approximately 3 weeks after surgery.

#### Incision

The stitches are all under the skin and do not have to be removed, they will dissolve about 2-3 weeks after surgery. A clear, glue-like dressing may be used on top of the incision; this will begin to peel off several days after surgery on its own. Some redness or bruising around the incision is normal for several days after surgery. To prevent the incisions from sticking to the diaper or underwear you will need to apply Vaseline or A&D ointment either to the incisions or the diaper or underwear. This may also help to keep the incisions clean and protect them.

#### Bathing

Soaking in a bathtub of clear, warm water twice a day for no more than 5 minutes will help keep the incision clean and promote healing.

#### Pain

Most children do not experience much pain after hernia repair. If your son complains of pain or appears to be uncomfortable you may give him his pain medication as prescribed.

Call your doctor if:

- Fever over 101.5
- Excessive redness or swelling around the incision
- Any pus-like drainage from the incision
- Severe pain not relieved with prescribed medication