



**Gentle
Procedures
Clinic**

Exceptional Care. Delivered Gently.

Newborn Circumcision Aftercare Guide



Thank you for choosing Gentle Procedures for your baby's circumcision. Our Pollock Technique™ and multiple pain-control steps help make the procedure quick and as comfortable as possible. Our team is here to help and support you after the procedure if you have any questions or worries. This guide shows what is normal, how to care for your son, and when to contact us.

First 24 hours after circumcision

- Baby may be more sleepy or a bit fussy.
- Keep him snugly swaddled and avoid lots of visitors and car journeys.
- Do not remove the bandage or gauze around the penis for the first 2 days.
- Check the nappy (diaper) about every hour for abnormal bleeding; small spots are common, dripping blood is not.
- No baths for 72 hours; use gentle sponge cleaning only if needed.

What happens over days 2–3?

- Swelling just behind the head and a red, shiny head are expected.
- Off-white or yellow patches on the head are healing scabs, not pus.
- After 2 days, the bandage around the penis may fall off at any time; do not replace it.
- Keep changing the square gauze and Vaseline with each nappy change for 72 hours.

What happens from day 4 to around 2 weeks?

- Stop the gauze pad after 72 hours, unless your doctor says otherwise.
- Apply a thick layer of Vaseline directly over the head and cut line at every nappy change for about two weeks.
- Gentle baths are now usually fine; pat the area dry.
- As swelling settles, gently push the shaft skin down so you can see the whole head, then add Vaseline.

What normal healing looks like

First 24 hours

Swaddled baby, dressings in place, hourly nappy checks, no baths, small blood spots are normal. Do not remove the bandage or gauze strip around the penis.

Days 2-7

Swelling and yellow healing patches are normal; the gauze strip may fall off, gentle baths can start after 72 hours, and use Vaseline at every nappy change.

Days 8-28

No dressings, Vaseline as advised, swelling and colour slowly settle, penis looks more "normal"; contact us if anything worries you.

How we support you after circumcision

Day 3

We will ask you to send us clear photos of the healing area through a secure link sent via email, so the doctor can review how your baby is healing and flag anything that needs attention.

Day 7

We will arrange a video call with our team so we can check on your baby's recovery together, answer any questions, and reassure you about what's normal at this stage.

Day 14

We will ask for another set of clear photos through a secure link sent via email, so the doctor can confirm healing is on track.

What bleeding is normal after circumcision?

- Coin-sized spots of blood on gauze or nappy in the first day are common.
- A little blood when dressings come off is usual; press firmly with clean gauze for 3-5 minutes.
- Continuous dripping blood or nappies soaked with fresh red blood are not normal. Apply gentle but firm pressure for 20 minutes and if bleeding continues, follow when to contact us and escalation instructions below.

How do I know the circumcision is healing properly?

- The head looks red and shiny, sometimes slightly purple or blue.
- Off-white or yellow patches on the head are normal healing tissue.
- A puffy ring just behind the head is expected and slowly settles.
- Baby wees, feeds and settles as usual, with only mild fussiness.
- You can see the full head once you gently push the shaft skin down after the early swelling.

Frequently asked questions

What if the gauze or strip falls off early?

If the strip falls off, leave it off. Replace only the square gauze with fresh Vaseline as needed.

The penis looks shorter or “buried”. Is that okay?

This is common in babies with soft pubic fat and usually improves as they grow; still, gently press the area down for cleaning and Vaseline.

Could redness and yellow patches mean infection?

On their own, no. Call us if redness spreads up the shaft, swelling worsens, or there is smelly discharge.

When to contact us?

- No wet nappies for much longer than usual, or your baby seems in pain when trying to wee.
- Redness spreading up the shaft, fast-increasing swelling, or smelly discharge.*
- You cannot see the head at all once swelling has settled, or the skin seems stuck and will not move.*
- Continuous dripping of blood or nappies repeatedly soaked with fresh red blood**
- Fever, very unwell, floppy, or nonstop crying that you cannot comfort, dial 999 or visit your local A&E Department.

* If out of hours, monitor overnight and call clinic at open. Call doctor directly if this worsens significantly

** Call doctor directly if out of hours



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