



Newborn Circumcision

The skin that covers the head of the penis is called foreskin. Circumcision is surgery to remove that skin.

Some insurance will not pay for it. Be sure to call your insurance and ask.

This information may help you make a decision.

Parents' Choice

Circumcision is your choice.

Studies say there may be some benefits. These include a lower risk of:

- Urinary tract and foreskin infections.
- Cancer of the penis.
- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) says these benefits are not enough. AAP does **not** say that all newborn boys should be circumcised.

Reasons you may choose circumcision:

- The other men in the family are circumcised.
- Religious and cultural.
- Easier to clean the penis.

Reasons you may choose not to circumcise:

- The other men in the family are not circumcised.
- Baby may feel pain.
- Risks of surgery.

Though the following have not been proven by any medical study, some think:

- The foreskin is needed to protect the tip of the penis.
- It will make the penis less sensitive.
- There will be a decrease in sexual pleasure later in life.

If you have any questions, please ask. Your doctor or nurse practitioner would be happy to answer your questions.