



## CIRCUMCISION

### **What is circumcision ?**

The procedure to remove it, known as circumcision, is carried out for religious, cultural, or medical reasons, including where the foreskin:

- is too tight
- becomes infected
- develops cancer.

### **How is circumcision performed ?**

Circumcisions are usually carried out under local (numbs the area) or general anaesthetic (which means you'll be asleep).

If your child is being circumcised, you probably will have general anaesthesia.

Once you're anaesthetised, your surgeon uses surgical scissors or a scalpel to detach your foreskin (the sleeve of skin that surrounds the head of the penis). They seal any blood vessels with heat (cauterisation) and close the edges of your skin with dissolvable stitches. The procedure takes around 30 to 40 minutes.

### **What are the complications associated with circumcision ?**

As with all procedures, there may be some risks and side effects such as bleeding, infection, pain and in some patients an increased sensitivity of the glans penis.

### **What is the follow-up after surgery ?**

You should be able to go home the same day and must carry a loose clothing. Please arrange for someone to collect you as you won't be able to drive.

It usually takes about 10 days for your penis to heal initially but the process continues for four to six weeks. It'll take about the same amount of time for the swelling to subside. If your child has been circumcised, it could take up to two weeks.

You can get back to your usual routine in 5-7 days , but you shouldn't have sex for at least four weeks and you'll need to take a few days off work.