

Circumcision Procedure

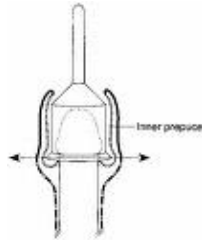
Gomco Method:

- 1) The area is cleaned
- 2) Forceps widen the opening of the foreskin
- 3) Foreskin is detached from the glans
- 4) Foreskin is clamped and incision is made on the dorsal side of the penis
- 5) A bell shape instrument sits over the penis and the foreskin is pulled over it
- 6) A metal plate is placed around the penis
- 7) An incision is made around the penis, removing the foreskin



Plastibell Method:

- 1) Steps 1-5 the same as with Gomco
- 6) A string is placed around the foreskin, cutting off the blood supply to the distal foreskin
- 7) The excess foreskin is cut off
- 8) the handle of the bell shaped plunger is broken off
- 9) In 5-12 days the dead tissue and the remainder of the plastibell will fall off.



Care After Gomco Circumcision

- Cleanse area 3-4 times a day with warm water
- Change the Vaseline gauze (if used) with each diaper change. There will be a sticky yellow drainage covering the penis for 2-3 days. This is part of normal healing.
- Use petroleum jelly on the gauze to protect the area
- Infant Tylenol may be used
- The penis should be healed in 7-10 days

Care Without Circumcision

- No special care required- just wash area during baths with warm water.
- Do NOT retract foreskin
- When foreskin retracts naturally (usually by age 5) teach child to clean glans with soap and water.

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- 6) Ray, M. (1997). The circumcision decision: an overview. Mothers against circumcision. Retrieved 05 January 2008 from <http://www.mothersagainstcirc.org/>
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Circumcision

Foreskin:
Take it or Leave it?



Questions and Answers About Circumcision

1) Is Circumcision medically necessary?

- No medical organization in the world recommends circumcision as a routine procedure.
- Less than 1% of males will require a medical circumcision ⁵
- The U.S is the only medically advanced nation that performs routine infant circumcision
- Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) occur in 1-2 /1000 circumcised males. They occur in 7-14 /1000 intact males. UTI's are treated with antibiotics ⁸. Females are 4 times more likely to have a UTI ⁶

2) Is the skin removed just extra skin?

- Foreskin protects the opening of the penis from bacteria, produces antibacterial proteins, and provides natural lubrication³
- Circumcision removes 20,000 nerve endings ³
- The intact penis is 4 times more sensitive than the circumcised penis ⁴

3) Will he get teased with an intact penis?

- Very few boys report being teased. In some states, only 23% are circumcised ⁵

4) Are there complications involved with circumcision?

- Yes. Complications are rare but include: removal of too much/too little skin, infections, adhesions, and complications later with painful erections ⁹
- Circumcised babies experience more problems than the baby left intact ⁹

5) Does Circumcision prevent AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)?

- The use of a condom is the most effective way to prevent STI's and HIV transmission.
- The U.S has a high circumcision rate of about 57% and has the highest rate of STI's in developed countries ⁹

6) Do Babies feel or remember pain?

- An Infants response to pain is similar, but greater than adults and studies indicate the pain is remembered ^{1,2}
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recognizes the need for pain medication and recommends its use during the procedure ¹

Why People Do Not Circumcise

- They want to avoid unnecessary risks of surgery
- They do not want to put the baby through the pain of the procedure
- They would rather wait until the child can agree to the procedure
- Cultural practice or preference

Why People Circumcise

- Their religious beliefs
- Their cultural beliefs
- The belief that it is medically necessary

If You Choose Circumcision

- See if any pain medicine is used
- Consider using Infant Tylenol after the procedure
- If choosing to breastfeed, make sure infant is feeding well before the procedure. It may be difficult to breastfeed after circumcision.

Circumcision is a personal decision, not a medical issue

History of Circumcision in America

- Circumcision was introduced in the late 1800's to eliminate masturbation, which was thought to be the cause of mental illness ⁶
- In the 1930's the military began requiring circumcision for hygiene because of the lack of clean water supply. Circumcision later became associated with wealth and cleanliness ⁶
- Religiously, circumcision is done on the 8th day (when the blood has the most clotting factors) as a physical symbol of the relationship with God. Initially, only the tip of the foreskin was removed ⁶

Today

- 57% of American males are circumcised
- 18% of the world's male population is circumcised.