



## **Circumcision Care for Infants**

### *Pediatric Patient Education Handout*

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### **What Parents & Caregivers Need to Know**

Circumcision is a common procedure. Healing usually takes 7–10 days. Proper care helps prevent infection and promotes healing.

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### **What to Expect**

- The tip of the penis may look red, swollen, or bruised
  - A yellowish film or coating may form — this is normal healing, not infection
  - Mild bleeding (a few drops) can happen the first day
  - Your baby may be fussy for a short time
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### **How to Care for the Area**

#### **Cleaning**

- Gently clean with warm water only
- Pat dry — do not rub
- Avoid wipes with alcohol or fragrance until healed

#### **Diapering**

- Change diapers frequently
- Apply petroleum jelly (Vaseline®) to the tip of the penis or diaper with each change for 5–7 days
- This prevents sticking and reduces discomfort

#### **Baths**

- Sponge baths only for the first 24 hours
- After that, normal bathing is okay unless instructed otherwise

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## Pain Control

- Discomfort is usually mild
- If recommended by your provider, acetaminophen (Tylenol®) may be used
- Do not give medication unless advised by your pediatric provider

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## When to Call Your Pediatric Provider

### Call if your baby has:

- Bleeding larger than a quarter-sized spot in the diaper or bleeding that won't stop
- Increasing redness or swelling after day 3
- Pus or foul-smelling drainage
- Fever ( $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  /  $38^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- No urine within 8 hours after the procedure
- Severe fussiness or signs of pain not improving

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## Healing Timeline

- Days 1–3: Redness and swelling are common
- Days 4–7: Yellow film/scab may appear
- 7–10 days: Area should be mostly healed

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**Questions?** – We understand parents may have questions or concerns. Please talk with your pediatric provider. We are happy to discuss this further.