

Going home after your son's orchidopexy

This leaflet will answer some of the questions you may have about your son returning to his everyday activities after his orchidopexy (operation to bring an undescended testicle into the scrotum). If you have any further questions or concerns, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for your son.

When can my son leave hospital?

Your son should be able to leave the hospital four to six hours after his surgery as long as there have been no complications. It is important that your son has eaten, drank and passed urine before leaving. You will be given some pain relief medicine to take home for your child, and a discharge letter for your GP. You can travel home on public transport if you need to.

Looking after your son's wound

After the operation, slight bleeding or oozing from the wounds is normal. Any swelling around the cut should go down within a few days. There may be a small dressing over the wounds. Your son should try to keep the dressings dry for the first 48 hours. After this time, he can shower as normal. Your son should not have a bath for a week. The dressings will fall off in their own time (this could take up to a week).

Will my son be in pain?

After the operation your son may have some discomfort. Pain relief will be prescribed and given as necessary. When your son is at home he should only need paracetamol, and you should give this to him regularly, at the recommended dose, for the first 48 hours.

When can my son return to normal activities?

Your son should avoid riding a bike or similar sit-on toys for six weeks. He can go back to school the following week however he should avoid taking part in PE lessons for two weeks.

Will my son have a follow-up appointment?

We will send you a follow-up appointment in the post. The follow-up appointment will be a few months after the operation. If you do not receive one, please contact Beach Ward (details on the next page).

What should I do if we have a problem at home?

If any of the following problems occur, please contact your GP, or the nurse in charge on Beach Ward:

- Swelling, redness, oozing or odour around the wound site
- Fever (a temperature over 37.5°C) and your son is not behaving as he usually does
- Increasing pain – even with regular pain relief.

If there is a lot of bleeding, or your child stops passing urine, it is advisable to take him to your nearest Emergency Department (A&E) to be looked at by a medical team. If possible, take all your son's medicines and discharge letter with you to the Emergency Department.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about orchidopexy please contact Beach Ward,
t: 020 7188 8844 (24 hours).

If you have any questions about medicines or their side effects, you can contact the Evelina Pharmacy Team, **t:** 020 7188 5049, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm.

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets

Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline.

t: 020 7188 3003 10am to 5pm, Monday to Friday **e:** letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

t: 020 7188 8801 (PALS) **e:** pals@gstt.nhs.uk
t: 020 7188 3514 (complaints) **e:** complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch. **t:** 020 7188 8815 **e:** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

Offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day. **t:** 111

NHS Choices

Provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make choices about your health. **w:** www.nhs.uk

Get involved and have your say: become a member of the Trust

Members of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the organisation on a voluntary basis. We count on them for feedback, local knowledge and support. Membership is free and it is up to you how much you get involved. To find out more, and to become a member:

t: 0800 731 0319 **e:** members@gstt.nhs.uk **w:** www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership



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