

# Neonatal Circumcision Clinic - Parent information sheet

## About the clinic

A circumcision is the removal of the male foreskin. The clinic can perform circumcisions on infants up to eight weeks of age. Your baby boy must be full term and in good health with no medical conditions. There are a few situations that may cause a circumcision to be delayed. For example, in babies who are born prematurely, circumcision is usually delayed until they are ready to be discharged from the hospital. Babies who are born with a defect of the penis should be evaluated by a urologist, who may recommend delaying circumcision. If there is a family history of a bleeding disorder or the baby has bleeding problems, circumcision is delayed until it has been determined that the baby is not at increased risk of bleeding during the procedure.

You do not need a referral from your Family Doctor, GP or Pediatrician. Pre-procedure blood work is not required. Please ensure your son is bathed prior to your appointment. You must bring your Newborn Evaluation Form signed by the hospital where you delivered your baby.

Circumcision procedures are not covered under OHIP (Ontario Health Insurance Plan). The SickKids Circumcision Clinic provides procedures at a cost of \$399.99 plus taxes, payment by VISA or MasterCard is required prior to the procedure. A \$100 cancellation fee is charged to your credit card for cancellations within 48 hours of the procedure. During the consultation with the surgeon on the day of procedure, if for any reason it is deemed that the procedure is contraindicated and will not be performed, an \$80 consultation fee is charged to your credit card.

## Contact information:

If you are calling to inquire about your child's appointment, please dial: 416-813-8286. You may need to leave a message due to the high volumes of calls received. If you leave a message, you can expect to hear back from us within 24 hours.

**Registration location:**

As this is your child's first visit to Sick Kids register for your appointment at Clinic Registration near the Atrium entrance on Elizabeth Street. Arrive early so you have enough time to register.

**Clinic location:**

The Urology Clinic is located at 555 University Avenue, the Atrium, Fifth Floor, unit D. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can use the Atrium elevators (near the cafeteria) and exit at the 5th floor and look for the unit D. See floor maps on [Getting to SickKids](#)

**What families should bring to the appointment:**

Please be on time and arrive 45 minutes before the procedure. Allow lots of time to get to the hospital. It can take some time to get used to finding your way around and it is important to be on time for your child's appointment. Staff will try to see your child as close to your appointment time as possible. Please understand that some patients being seen ahead of you may need more time than expected, and this can cause delay for others.

**Bring the following:**

- your child's Newborn Evaluation Form signed by the hospital where you delivered your baby or by Midwife
- your child's Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) card
- any other medical information
- all medications or an accurate list of all medications (please include alternative and complimentary treatments)

Sometimes there is a wait. Remember to bring toys, nut-free snacks, diapers and formula to keep your child comfortable and occupied.

**Interpreter Services:**

If you need an interpreter, please speak with the Clinic clerk soon as possible so she can call Interpreter Services to arrange for an interpreter. Please give us at least 24 to 48 hours notice to make it easier for us to find an interpreter for you.

### **Getting to Sick Kids:**

If you need directions please call the hospital at 416-813-8600 or visit our website. There is also information about parking at the hospital.

Direct phone lines to a taxi company are available at the Elizabeth Street and University Avenue entrances.

Some bus and train companies offer companion fares for family members accompanying children to medical appointments.

For more information please visit link: [Coming for a clinic appointment page.](#)

### **What families should expect during their clinic visit:**

When you arrive to the Hospital your baby needs to be register for the procedure at Clinic Registration near the Atrium entrance on Elizabeth Street. Sick Kids identification (ID) band will be placed on your baby. The band must be worn on your baby's ankle at all times. Check your baby's ID band to make sure the information is right. If your baby is not wearing a band or has the wrong one, it can lead to errors that can result in the wrong care for your baby. Staff must always check the band before providing care to your baby.

When you arrive to 5D unit your baby's registration forms need to be given to our clerk. You will wait for you appointment in the waiting area. Your baby's name will be called and you will be taken to the clinic room. You and your baby will meet a urology fellow and a registered nurse. Before circumcision, the doctor who will perform the procedure will review the informed consent. This is a discussion of the reasons for circumcision, the benefits, risks, and alternatives, and ensures that you understand what will happen during the procedure. You will have lots of time to ask questions.

You should discuss what pain control measures will be used during and after the procedure. Swaddling, oral sugar solutions or Acetaminophen (Tylenol) may be given as well, but should not be used as the primary method of pain relief. Your doctor may use a local anesthetic. This might be a cream on the skin or a shot into the base of the penis.

To perform the procedure, the doctor places the baby on a special table and cleans the baby's penis and foreskin. First, the baby gets medicine so he won't feel pain. This might be a cream on the skin or a shot into the base of the penis. Then he or she uses special tools to cut off the foreskin. There are several techniques for performing circumcision; the choice of which technique is used depends upon the physician's preference and experience. The three major methods of circumcision are the Gomco clamp, the Plastibell device, and the Mogen clamp. Finally, the doctor wraps a bandage (called gauze) around the baby's penis to protect it from rubbing against the diaper.

The baby may cry during the procedure and for a short while afterward. Local anesthesia can greatly reduce your baby's discomfort.

The procedure takes about 15 to 30 minutes.

If you have your baby circumcised, his doctor or nurse will give you instructions on how to care for him after the surgery. It is important that you follow those instructions carefully.

See [Caring for your child at home after a circumcision.](#)