Certified Mohel, M. Ed

Step-by-Step Aftercare Instructions

The goal of post-circumcision aftercare is to minimize the risk of infection by covering the circumcision area with petroleum jelly.

Here is a step-by-step guide of how to do post-circumcision aftercare:

- I. First things first: check if your son has a dirty diaper. If he does- and he probably does!- clean him and change his diaper before the aftercare.
- II. Wash your hands with soap and hot water.
- III. Get yourself all set up with wipes, a few diapers, and make the aftercare gauze pad as we discussed: take one 3 x 3 gauze pad in the palm of you hand and squeeze a significant amount of ointment on the gauze pad- a volume of around 6 quarters. Then, holding opposite corners of the gauze pad very tightly, fold the gauze pad on itself to spread the ointment, and then unfold the gauze. Do the same for the other opposite corners. Repeat this process until the ointment is evenly spread out on most of the gauze pad. Once you are done with that, put down the aftercare gauze pad and move to the next step.
- IV. Ok. We're ready! Open the diaper and gently remove the old gauze pad and place the new gauze pad over the tip of the anatomy, building a tent over the circumcision area. Remember: Teepee on the Peepee! Close the diaper and that's it!
- V. Do this aftercare at every diaper change until you run out of the gauze pads provided to you. If you are going through the gauze pads very quickly, just make sure you do aftercare for at least 48 hours.

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Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have throughout aftercare. You can reach me on my personal cell phone at **773-877-2247**. If you need to reach me in the middle of the night due to significant bleeding, please don't hesitate to call me. In order to make my phone ring in the middle of the night, call twice in a row.

Frequently Asked Questions

Now that the circumcision is over, will my baby be uncomfortable for the next few days?

While every baby is different, there will probably be some moments of discomfort. So here is the deal: if your baby is fed, burped and clean and he's still uncomfortable, that's probably circumcision related. I'd recommend asking your doctor how he or she feels about administering some Infant Tylenol. [Some docs don't recommend Ibuprofen.] Either way, after a day or two, your son will probably not feel much discomfort at all.

Should I expect to see blood throughout the aftercare?

First of all, I won't leave your side until all active bleeding has stopped. Second, all babies have a small, insignificant amount of bleeding during aftercare. So you'll see some blood on the gauze pads throughout the first couple of days. But after that, bleeding rarely occurs. Third, serious bleeding is VERY rare in neonatal circumcision. That said, **should you see a significant amount of blood**, which means seeing fresh red blood that saturates a good portion of the diaper- or more-just call me to ensure the bleeding is within normal limits- even in the middle of the night. See instructions on the front side of this FAQ as to how you can reach me at night.

Oh no! My son pooped everywhere! And I mean EVERYWHERE!!

Kids are creative... it happens. And sometimes, poop gets under the gauze pad on the circumcision area. If this happens, here is what you should do: use a baby wipe as shield between your fingers and the circumcision area and gently remove what needs to be removed by pulling off the poop through the wipe. You don't need to overdo it... just do your best!

What should I expect to see throughout aftercare?

Well, to be brutally honest, the first week doesn't look too pretty. The crown typically goes through shades of reds, blues and purples, and the area just beneath the crown will have a whitish/ yellowish film called Granulation Tissue. There is often swelling, which usually goes away after about a week. At about to 7-10 days, things start to return to normal. The final stage of the healing process is where all of the skin melds together, which can take around 4-6 weeks.

Any other questions?

Don't hesitate to call, text or email... I'm happy to help!