

Types of penile foreskin procedures

Circumcision - an operation to remove the foreskin

Frenuloplasty - an operation to loosen the frenulum

Prepuccioplasty - an operation to loosen the foreskin

Lesion removal - an operation to remove any abnormalities in the skin tissue

Why do I need a penile procedure?

These procedures are performed to help with problems with a tight foreskin. These procedures may be recommended for the following health conditions:

- Tightening of the foreskin (phimosis) so that it cannot retract fully and reveal the head (glans) of the penis
- Repeated infections or inflammation of the head of the penis (balantitis)
- Acute, painful swelling of the glans when the foreskin gets stuck behind it
- Repeated bleeding and/or pain during intercourse
- Suspicion of a growth on the penis

What does the procedure involve?

Our procedures are performed under a local anaesthetic. The procedure usually takes 15-45 mins. Open wounds are closed together using dissolving stitches. You will be able to go home as soon as you feel fit enough to do so.

On the day of your procedure, please stop eating and drinking one hour prior to your appointment.

If you experience extreme pain or bleeding within 24 hours of the procedure, please contact the LSUS office during office hours of 9am to 5pm on Tel: 01903 503447. If outside office hours, please contact your Emergency GP for advice.

What complications can I experience?

1. General complications of any procedure

- Pain
- Bleeding
- Infection in the surgical wound
- Unsightly scarring

2. Specific complications of penile procedures

- Difficulty passing urine
- Bleeding from the wound
- Scar tenderness
- Narrowing of the opening of the urethra
- Need for removal of excess skin at a later date
- Being unhappy with the appearance of the penis
- Permanent altered or reduced sensation of the penis

Aftercare

- You may eat and drink soon after the procedure. There will be some dissolvable stitches and a dressing. You will be able to pass urine with this on.
- You can remove the dressing after 24 hours. You must keep the area dry for 48 hours. You can shower after 48 hours and bath after 72 hours. You should avoid sexual intercourse and masturbation for 4 weeks.
- The penis usually looks swollen and red; this is a normal reaction to the procedure and will settle with time. Some scabs may also form over the wounds or the glans and will flake off with time.
- If pain, discomfort or oozing persists after 72 hours, we would recommend a saline bath (salt water) or submerging the area in diluted Savlon (Savlon with water, you can purchase Savlon at your local chemist, drugstore or supermarket) to alleviate the pain and promote healing.
- In the event you have any concerns about the length of the healing process or suspecting infection, we would recommend you arrange an appointment with your GP who can assess if anti-biotics are required.
- You should be able to return to normal activity after 2-3 days. If your procedure was for a Circumcision please allow 3-5 days. Please speak to your GP if you require signing off from work during your recovery period.