



Patient and Family Education

Chordee Repair

What is a Chordee?

Chordee is a condition some boys are born with where bands of tissue pull on the penis, making it appear bent or curved, most notably during an erection.

What causes it?

Usually, this finding is associated with hypospadias or other congenital penile conditions. It is thought chordee occurs when more flexible tissue grows on the backside of the penis than on the underside, causing the shaft of the penis to bend or curve. It can also be due to skin tethering on the underside of the penis, or tissue that is thickened (fibrotic) just below the outer layer of penile skin.

How is it diagnosed?

History of reported symptoms by parents and physical exam by doctor.

When is surgery needed?

Your child's urologist may recommend a procedure to correct the bend and to prevent ongoing problems. The procedure can be scheduled at a time that is convenient for your family.

What happens during surgery?

Your son will receive a general anesthetic to help him sleep and not feel pain during surgery. A circumcision incision will be made in the penis. The surgeon will then perform an erection test and correct the curvature. The surgery will take about an hour. Any other penile conditions will be corrected at the same time. At the end of surgery your child will be brought to the post-op area. You will be able to take your child home the same day.

Will my child be in pain?

Most children do well with the surgery. Pain can be controlled by alternating Acetaminophen (Tylenol or another brand) and Ibuprofen. Do not give aspirin because it may cause bleeding.



What can I expect after the surgery?

Before your son is discharged you will be given written information about his care at home and any questions you have will be answered.

- **Diet:** Resume regular diet as tolerated.
- **Activity:** May return to school or daycare when pain is well controlled. Avoid straddling activities, contact sports and swimming for 7 days or until completely healed.
- **Wound care:** Swelling of the area is common and should decrease in about one week. Some bruising may also occur, this will gradually disappear. A clear plastic bandage may be placed by your son's surgeon after surgery. This will fall off on its own. Apply Bacitracin to surgical area 4 times a day for 7 days. Then switch to Aquaphor or Vaseline 4 times a day for 2 more weeks.
- **Bathing:** Ok to take a bath 24 hours after procedure. Bathe (5-10 minutes) in plain water for the next week. A daily warm bath will facilitate healing and provide comfort.
- **Medicines:** Most children do well with surgery. Pain can be controlled by alternating Acetaminophen (Tylenol or another brand) and Ibuprofen. Do not give aspirin because it may cause bleeding. Apply Bacitracin to surgical area 4 times a day for 7 days. Then switch to Aquaphor or Vaseline 4 times a day for 2 more weeks.

What to call the doctor for:

- Fever associated with redness or drainage at surgical area.
- Significant swelling, bruising, or bleeding at surgical area.
- Wound separation.
- Decreased urine output or decrease in wet diapers.

Call your child's primary care doctor for any other concerns.

Follow-up care: Follow-up with your child's surgeon as directed following the surgery. You can call (612) 813-8000 to schedule an appointment.

Questions? This information is not specific to your child but provides general information. If you have any questions, please call the clinic.