

Orchiopexy: Pre-Operative Information

What is an orchiopexy?

It is a surgical procedure to move testicles from the abdomen or groin into the scrotum. Before birth, the testicle moves from the pelvic area down into the scrotum. In some boys, this does not occur and it is called undescended testicles. This may require more than one operation depending on the position of the testes and any other associated problems.



Locations of undescended testes

When is the operation done?

Usually the operation is done in early childhood. If undescended testicles are left too long, changes can occur which can affect growth and function.

How is the operation done?

An abdominal or small groin incision is made and testicle is then brought down into the scrotum and stitched in place. There will be a second stitch on the scrotum. Usually the surgery is done through the Short Stay Unit, and your son will be discharged the same day.

In some cases a laparoscope is used to examine the pelvis to help locate the testis. This can also help plan the correction of any other related problems.

Recovery at home

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

Swelling of the scrotum and discoloration of the skin is common after this operation. Minor bleeding is not unusual. If the overlying scrotal skin is loose there is not cause for alarm. Occasionally bleeding may be moderate and cause considerable swelling. This should be checked out by the doctor that did the surgery.

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

If you have questions

If you have any questions or concerns, please call your child's doctor at Pediatric Surgical Associates at (612) 813-8000 or 1-800-992-6983.

