

# Hernia or Hydrocele

## After the Operation

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### Going home

Children who have had a hernia/hydrocele operation are usually able to go home the same day.

### The wound

Your child will have a small wound with dissolving stitches. This means they do not need to be removed. Some bruising and swelling is not unusual over the next few days.

### Pain

Some discomfort may be experienced following surgery. Paracetamol can be given regularly, following the instructions on the bottle. If you are worried, please do not hesitate to contact your GP or ourselves.

### Bathing

You can bath/shower your child the following morning, and this should continue daily for the next week until the wound heals.

### Play and school

Your child should be encouraged to return to normal activities gradually and s/he may be ready to return to school/nursery within a few days. However, recovery time varies between children and your child may need a little longer.

Strenuous activities e.g. contact sports should be avoided for 4-6 weeks.

### Questions and problems

Should you have any problems in the first few days at home, please contact us at the ward (tel. **0131 312 0970**). Your GP will be informed about your child's operation directly by letter.

We hope this leaflet has been useful. If you have any further questions, please ask a member of staff before you leave.

Your consultant surgeon is \_\_\_\_\_

A follow-up appointment has/has not been arranged on

\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Royal Hospital for Children and Young People  
50 Little France Crescent  
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Hernia or Hydrocele – After the Operation  
Surgical Admission Unit (Crichton Ward)