

Name of Operation: ***Hypospadias repair (single-stage)*****Main issues:**

- Moving the pee-hole to the end of the penis, straightening any bend in the penis (“chordee”), and “zipping up” (reconstructing) the open under-side of the foreskin (so that the skin covers the head of the penis, as it normally should in boys).
- Clinical photographs may be taken under anaesthetic before and after the operation, for his hospital records. Only if you give your permission, these may also be used elsewhere (eg, for teaching), but done confidentially (so that no one else will be able to identify your son).
- Unless you tell us that you do not want us to, details of the operation may also be sent to a database that monitors national standards, but again this will all be done confidentially.
- Dissolving stitches (no need to remove).
- Usually a drainage-tube (“catheter”) in the bladder for a few days, secured by a bulky dressing.
- Double-nappies (if he’s still in nappies), to keep the poo away from the dressing.
- Very sore to pee, and penis looks swollen and bruised, for several weeks after catheter removed.

Intended benefits:

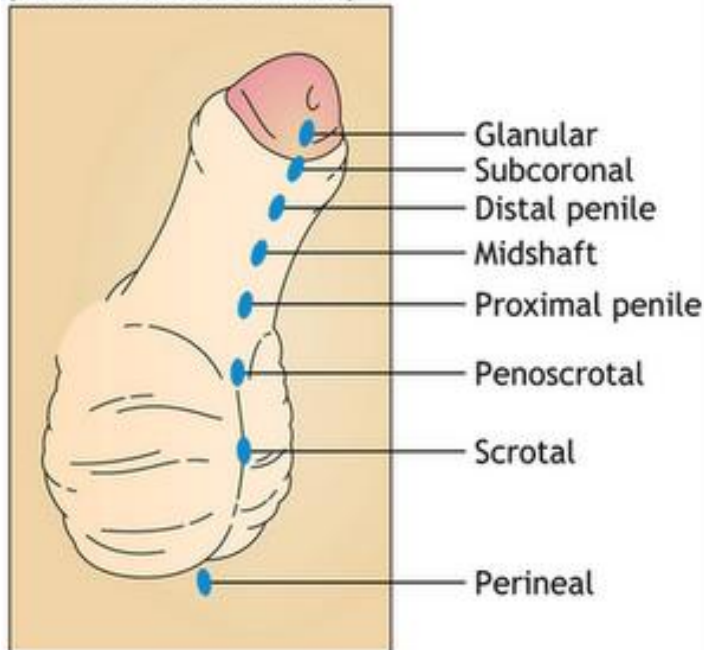
- Easier to pee when standing.
- Easier sexual intercourse in later life.
- Cosmetic (improved appearance).

Common or serious risks:

- Bleeding (rarely serious).
- Infection (rarely serious).
- Damage to penis or pee-pipe (rarely serious).
- About 1 in 5 boys will develop a complication such as extreme holding on (“urinary retention”), a leak producing a second stream (“fistula”), or narrowing of the new pee-pipe (“stricture”), any of which may need further surgery.
- In about 1 in 100 boys, the stitches will completely undo (“break-down”), so that the repair ends up looking as if no surgery has been done. Another operation will be needed, but it has to be delayed for 6 months, until the tissues have fully recovered from the first operation.
- The final appearance of the skin may be less than ideal as it heals: normally boys “grow into” any bagginess of the skin, so it would be unusual that further minor cosmetic surgery is needed for this in later life.
- In some boys, as the foreskin heals it becomes unable to move back, and so he may need a minor operation to release it before he becomes sexually active.
- Anaesthetic problems (rarely serious, but around 1 in 250,000 general anaesthetics in children can be fatal).

Types of hypospadias

(shows where the urine comes out)



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Diagram 1: the types of hypospadias, showing where the urine comes out

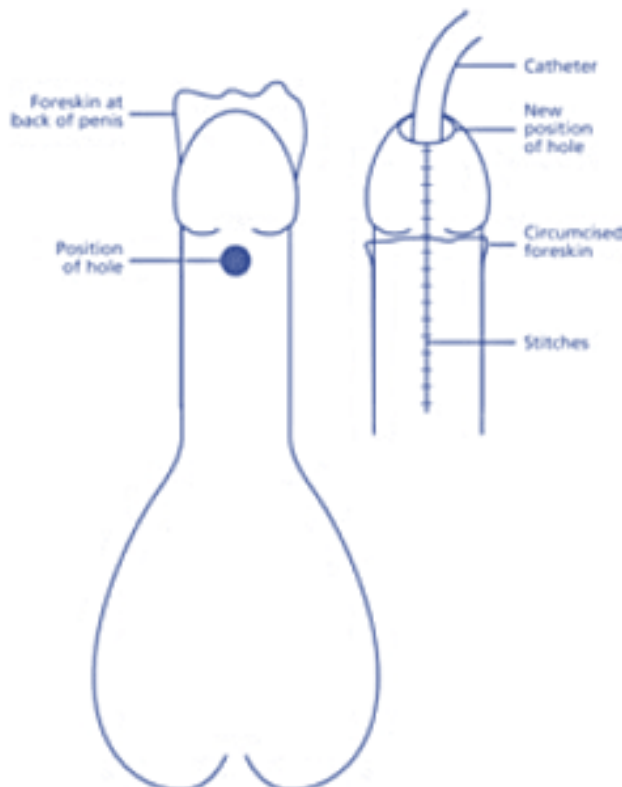


Diagram 2: how hypospadias is repaired, but here we usually try to repair the foreskin as well, unless you would prefer us to remove the foreskin (a circumcision) as shown above (no longer able to find source of drawing)