

HYPOSPADIAS

How common is hypospadias?

Hypospadias is a common birth defect, occurring in one out of every 150 to 300 boys.

How is hypospadias treated?

Regardless of the approach, the goal is to create a normal straight penis with a urinary channel that ends at the tip of the head of the penis. The operation usually involves three steps: straightening the shaft; creating the channel; positioning the urethral opening in the head. Since the fore skin is used to fashion the urethra circumcision will need to be done.

In most cases surgery is one stage. However sometimes it can be a two stage procedure when the defect is too large to be repaired in a single stage.

What is the best time to do this surgery?

The best time is probably between one to three years. Some pediatric urologists do this surgery as early as 6 months. As the age increase the success of surgery slowly starts decreasing especially after 12 – 15 years.

What anesthesia is used?

Hypospadias repair is done under general anesthesia. Modern anesthesia is very safe, especially when given by anesthesiologists who specialize in the care of children.

What can be expected after treatment for hypospadias?

A catheter is left to support the repair for 7 to 10 days. Antibiotics, and other medicines are given while

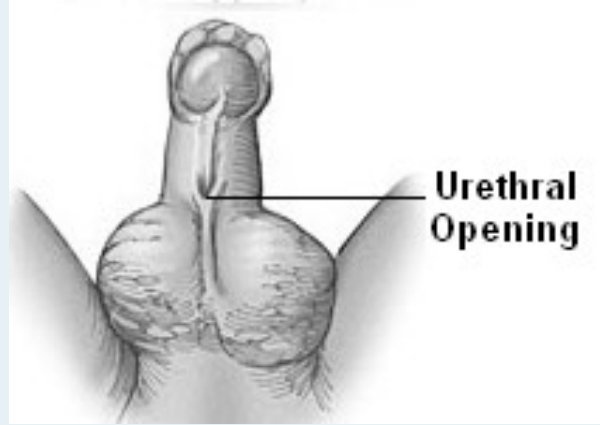
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the catheter is in use. A successful repair should last a lifetime, including during rapid penis growth spurt at puberty.

The most common complication after surgery is the development of a hole — or fistula — from the urinary channel to the skin. The child will leak urine from a second opening after hypospadias repair.

If the child still has problems after several operations, can his hypospadias still be repaired?

Yes. Fortunately, the majority of operations are successful the first time. Yet, a few children require re-operation because of complications. Most of them will have a good outcome the second time, while a few will have lingering problems leading to even more surgery.



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What happens under normal conditions?

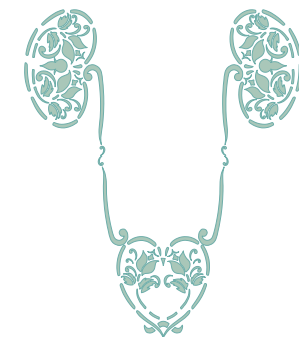
The penis serves as a pathway for urine and semen. Both tasks are facilitated when the urethral opening is positioned at the tip.

What is hypospadias?

Hypospadias is a condition in which the urethral opening does not form completely to the tip of the penis. Instead, the opening may be located anywhere along the underside of the penis.

Is hypospadias associated with other congenital developmental problems?

Most often hypospadias is the only problem in these infants. About 1 in 10 boys with hypospadias also have a testicle that is not fully descended into the scrotum.



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