



Instructions for Parents For Care Following **HERNIA REPAIR**

ACTIVITY

Your child should not participate in organized sports or gym class at school for two weeks following the surgery. Otherwise, your child may do whatever he wants to do.

DIET

You may feed your child whatever he wants to eat. Sometimes children who have had general anesthesia will vomit within the first 6 hours after surgery. This is common and you should not be alarmed. Some children are very thirsty or hungry after surgery. It is best to start slowly. Try sips of water or juice at first. After your child tolerates liquids, you may start solid food.

DRESSINGS

No dressings are necessary following a hernia repair. The tapes or membrane dressing covering the incision(s) will fall off within 10 to 14 days.

MEDICATION

Your child will need pain medication following the surgery. Unless you were instructed otherwise, you can use ibuprofen (Motrin for children, Advil for children, or a generic form). You can give your child _____ mg. Ibuprofen every 6 hours. If ibuprofen does not relieve the pain well enough, use the Tylenol with codeine according to the directions on the bottle. Use either ibuprofen or Tylenol with codeine, not both.

BATHING

If your child has a clear membrane dressing over the incision, he may bathe at any time. If your child has a thin white tape (Steri-strip) over the incision your child should wait 48 hours following the surgery before going in the bath or shower. He should take a short (5-10 minute) bath or shower for the first 7 days. After the first week, he may soak or shower as long as he wants. He can also go swimming.

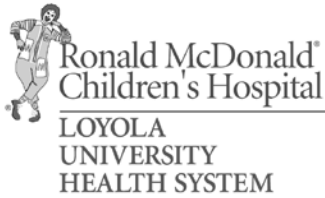
ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

You will probably notice some bruising and swelling near the incision and on the scrotum during the next day or two. This is normal and it will disappear within 2 to 3 weeks. If your son's scrotum swells to be larger than a lime, call your surgeon.

Your child may have a low-grade fever the night of surgery. Call your doctor if the fever continues or if it is higher than 102 degrees Fahrenheit.

If your child should have difficulty with breathing, bleeding that you feel is excessive, persistent nausea or vomiting, pain that is unusual, swelling, or fever, please call your surgeon at 708/216-6266 (Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 PM) or 708/216-8000 (evenings, nights or weekends). **In the event of an urgent emergency, you may take your child to the Loyola University Medical Center Emergency Department (708/216-3882) or to an emergency room near to you.**

Patient/Parent/Guardian	Nurse/Physician	Date
David A. Hatch, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.A.P. Derek Matoka, M.D. Section of Pediatric Urology Loyola University Medical Center 2160 S. First Avenue Maywood, IL 60153	Office: Appointments: Central Scheduling (all clinics) Darien Elmhurst Hickory Hills Homer Glen Oakbrook Terrace Wheaton	708/216-6266 708/216-8563 630/985-4989 708/327-7030 708/233-5333 708.645.3400 630/953-6600 603.665.5995
Anne Casaccio, RN Linda Bauman, Secretary lbauman@luhs.org	708/216-5111 708/216-6266	Directions and maps available at www.luhs.org 7/28/2010



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