

Urology Department

Following Hypospadias Repair Repositioning the urethra to the tip of the penis: 1st stage repair, and for older boys

Information for parents and carers

What to expect after surgery

Please remember that your child can mobilise (move about), but should avoid vigorous activity for as long as they have a catheter in place. Some boys will have a stent with a drainage bag. A stent is a small tube which passes through the penis and into your child's bladder, allowing his wound to heal after surgery. We will also call this a catheter, as the same advice applies. The catheter will be in place for at least seven days, or up to 10 days after the operation. We appreciate that it can be difficult to limit your child's activity for this length of time, but it is important.

The catheter is in place to allow your child to pass urine. It is important to protect the dressing as this holds the catheter in place. Ensure the catheter strap is fixed securely to the leg with tape. You will be shown how to do this before leaving the ward. Make sure the catheter bag is kept at, or below waist height, so that it drains well.

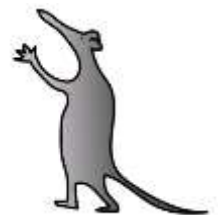
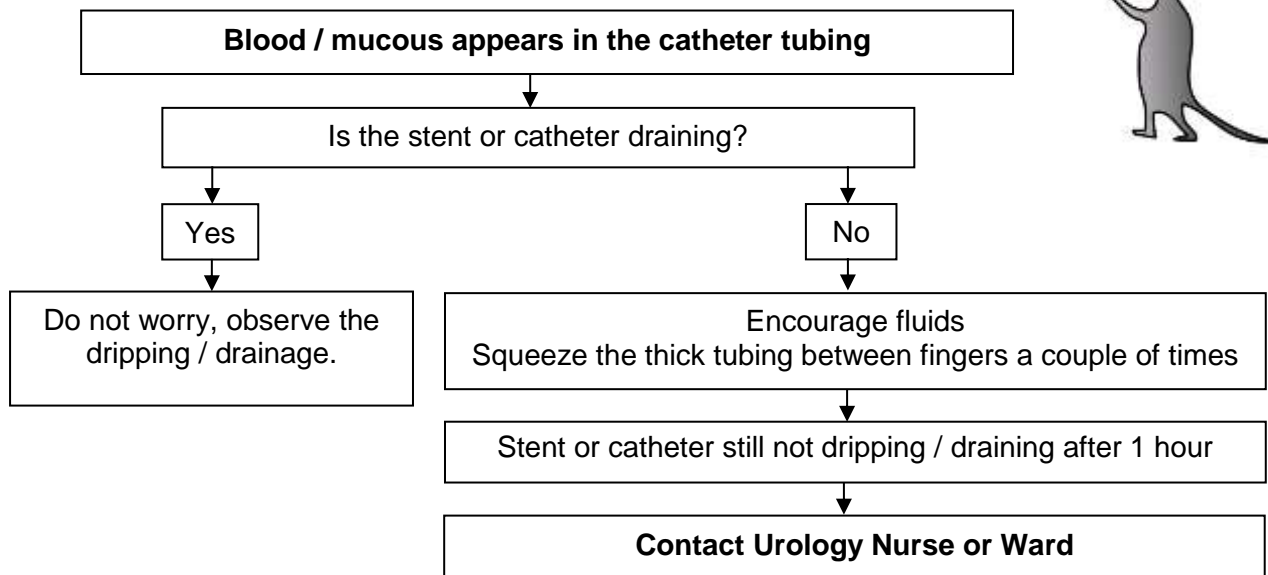
Wash your hands well with liquid soap and water and dry them with kitchen towel before emptying the catheter bag. Empty the catheter in the morning and afternoon, and at any time the bag becomes heavy with urine. Please use the alcohol wipes provided for cleaning the tap on the catheter bag, as this will prevent any infection getting into the catheter.

If your child develops a temperature or starts vomiting, this may be due to an infection. Contact the Ward 3A on 0151 252 5416 immediately for advice.

Drinking

Drinking is really important whilst your child has a catheter. Plenty of fluids help to ensure it drains well and doesn't get blocked. The stent or catheter should be dripping / draining at all times, and catheter tubing should not become twisted or kinked. Blood or mucous can appear in catheter tubing and this can sometimes lead to a blockage.

What to do if blood or mucous appears in the catheter tubing



Medication

Your child will be prescribed medication to take following surgery. It is important that your child takes this medication to prevent infection and to make him more comfortable. Please do not try to hide the medication in drinks, as this can cause your child to refuse fluids. The fluids are just as important as the medication.

The medications we use are:

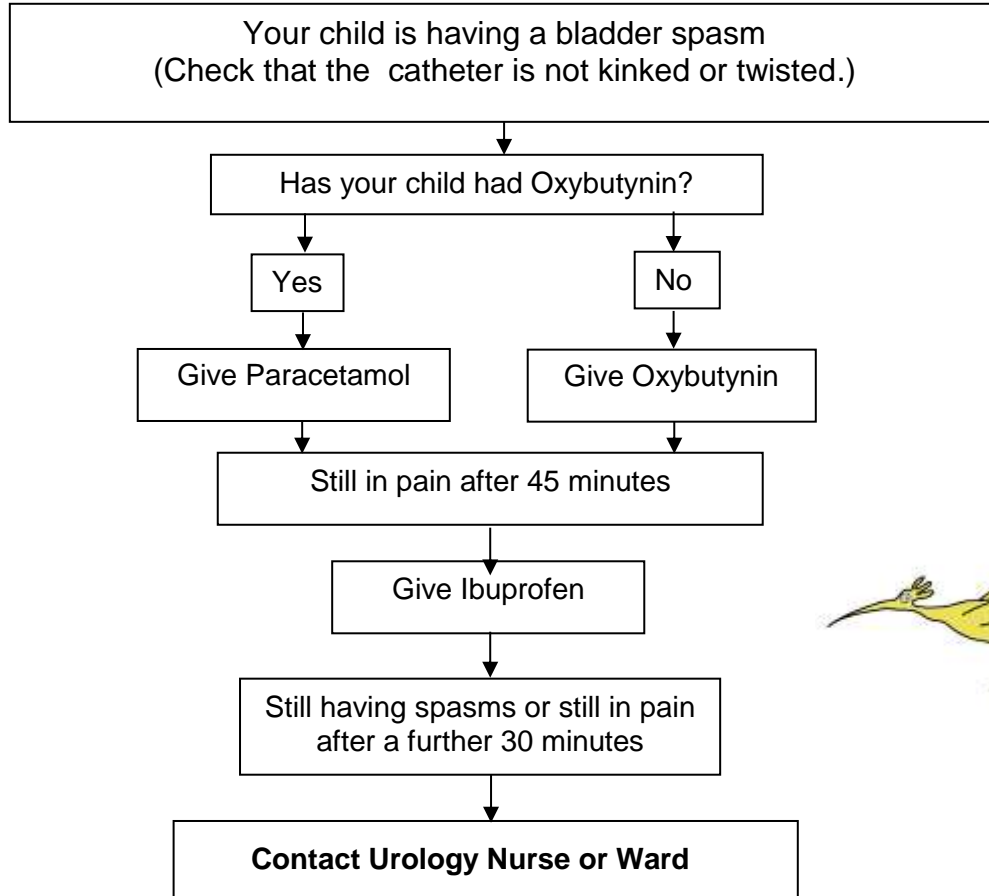
- ♦ Trimethoprim (at night time) - An antibiotic to prevent infection
- ♦ Oxybutynin (may not be needed) - To prevent bladder spasms while catheterised
- ♦ Lactulose & Senna - Laxatives to prevent / treat constipation
- ♦ Paracetamol & Ibuprofen - Analgesia to control pain

Bladder spasms

Bladder spasms sometimes occur if your child has a catheter. Oxybutynin may control these spasms in many cases, but they can still happen.

If bladder spasms are going to be a problem, they usually start within 12-24 hours after surgery. The symptoms can be mild, like an itchy bottom, or cause sudden tenseness and pain, which can be quite distressing.

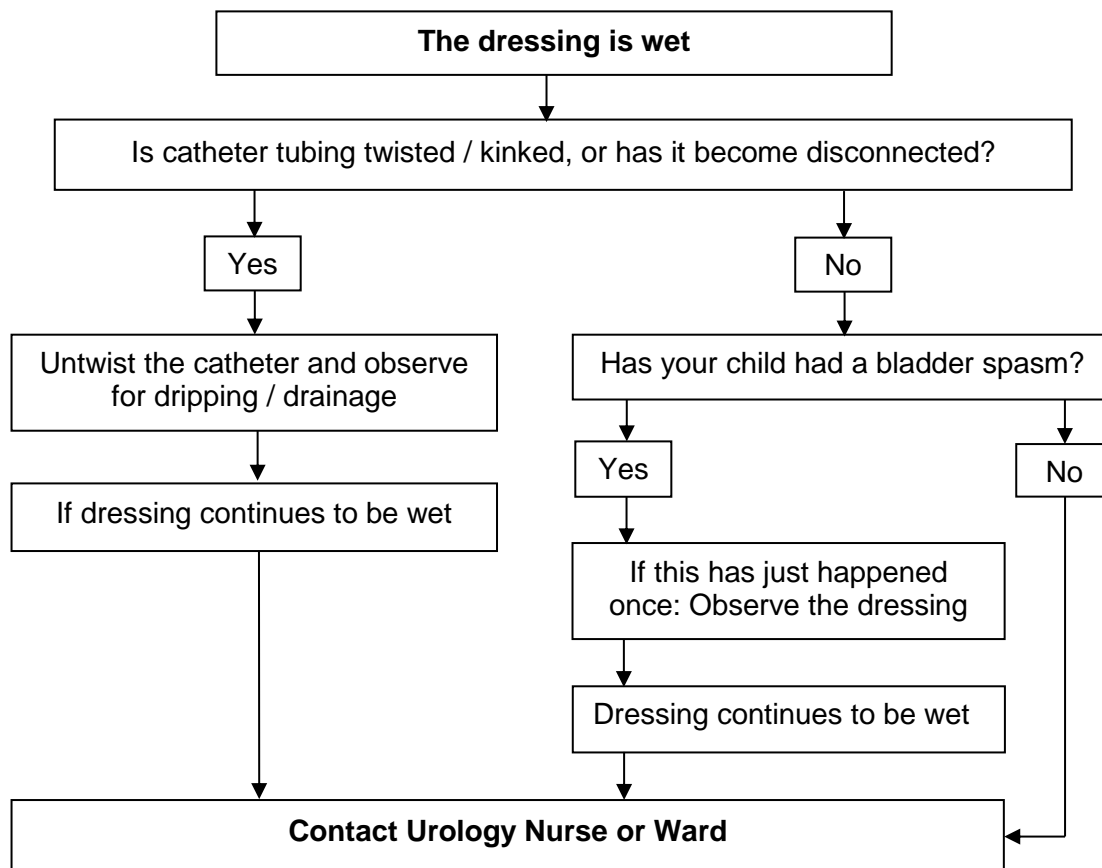
What to do if your child is having a bladder spasm



Leakage from around the catheter when using a drainage bag

Sometimes the catheter can leak onto the dressing, because of a blockage, bladder spasm or if your child is straining to open their bowels.

What to do if there is leaking around the catheter when using a drainage bag



Help when you get home

If you have any problems at all, please telephone Ward 3A on 0151 252 5416, where staff will do their best to help you.

Or you can contact the Urology Nurses on 0151 252 5852. Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm.

Preparing for removal of the dressing & catheter

If your child has a catheter draining into a bag (1st stage repair) he will need to go to theatre to have his the dressing removed. You will be given a date and time to return to Alder Hey for this procedure.

If your child has a stent, we can remove the dressing and stent on the ward. Your child can have a bath on the evening before or the morning of the dressing removal.

You will be asked to stay in the hospital until your child has had a good wee (passed urine). If your child has been taking Oxybutynin. **Please do not give your child a morning dose of Oxybutynin before your appointment.** This will help him to pass urine more quickly after the procedure. It is also important to give your child lots of drinks, as this will reduce the waiting around.



If he is not *nil by mouth* (*nil by mouth* is usually when a procedure takes place in theatre) give your child his **pain medication**. Catheter removal is not particularly painful, but the whole process of removing the dressings can be quite uncomfortable. If we need to give pain relief when you arrive, there will be a delay before the dressings are removed while it takes effect.

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment.

This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

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