

DR JAMES A CHURCHILL

MBBS BMedSc FRACS MFSTEd MIPDEd GAICD AFHEA
Specialist Urologist & Robotic Surgeon
Conjoint Lecturer, UNSW Medicine



Urology Centre
3 Highfields Circuit, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Phone: 02 5520 2222 | Fax: 02 5520 2220 | Email: info@churchillurology.com
Provider No: 459676QY

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR HYDROCOELE REPAIR UNDER THE CARE OF DR JAMES CHURCHILL

General care:

- There will be minor swelling and bruising of the scrotum, which may last several days. Please see the last section below for advice if you are concerned by early swelling and bruising in the days after the operation.
- It is normal for some fluid to re-accumulate in the scrotum during the weeks after this operation, but the amount should be smaller than prior to operation and will resolve over time.
- Passing urine is possible from straight after the operation.

Pain relief:

- Wear 2 pairs of supportive underpants, with or without a folded pair of socks between, for 6 weeks after the operation or until comfortable. This will help to improve pain and reduce swelling and re-accumulation of fluid.
- It is normal to have bruising and swelling of the scrotum which will resolve over the next 2 weeks.
- Regular paracetamol (Panadol) and ibuprofen (Nurofen) is recommended once the local anaesthetic wears off and may need to continue for 5-7 days.
- Ice packs may be applied to the scrotum if needed.
- Rest for a few days and wear loose fitting clothing until comfortable. Avoid heavy lifting, straining and constipation for 2 weeks.

Wound care:

- Your wounds are dressed with "Opsite" spray, which is a clear wound dressing. You do not need to remove this, it will dissolve. Should there be a plastic dressing you will be instructed to take this off 24 hours after surgery.
- Try to keep the scrotum dry for 48 hours, by showering and using a towel/sponge to wash; avoid soaking in a bath during this time. Do not swim (pool or ocean) for two weeks, as infections from unusual water-borne bacteria may be difficult to treat.
- All visible stitches will dissolve, usually within 2 to 3 weeks. Do not attempt to remove them if they persist but bring this to Dr Churchill's attention at the first post-operative visit.

Function and appearance:

- The stitch-line will be raised at first and may be slightly separated between stitches. It can take up to 6 weeks before the scrotum reaches its final cosmetic appearance.
- You can resume sexual activity when you feel comfortable doing so or when your wounds have healed, and the swelling has subsided.

Should any of the following occur, call the rooms or attend your closest emergency department:

- Rapid swelling of the scrotum or heavy bleeding from the wound.
- Redness or pus at the wound.
- Fever (temperature of 38C) or chills.
- Pain that does not respond to the pain relief advice described above.