Newborn Circumcision After Care

What to expect:

* A bloody crust or yellowish coating may form around the head of the penis, which is normal. Do not try to clean off the crust or coating, or it may bleed.
* The penis may be swollen or have slight bleeding around the incision. If this happens, apply firm but gentle pressure with a clean cloth or gauze to the penis to stop the bleeding. Call the office if this persists.
* The base of the penis may have bruising around it. This can be caused by the injection of the numbing medicine. This is normal and will resolve in the next few days.
* The head of the penis may be red or black and blue.
* He may cry when he first urinates or may be fussy for the next few days.
* The circumcision should heal in the next 7-10 days.

Cleaning:

* Gently wash his penis if it has stool on it by using a soft washcloth or cotton balls by gently blotting or squeezing warm water onto the penis.
* **Do not use soap, lotion, powder, or diaper wipes to clean the penis, because they may cause irritation or stinging.**
* Let the skin air-dry as much as possible.
* Coat the head of the penis with petroleum jelly with each diaper change to prevent the skin from sticking to the diaper for 7-10 days, or until it has healed.

When to call the clinic:

* Fever of 100.4 or more
* Persistent bleeding that doesn’t respond to direct pressure
* No urination for 6-8 hours after the circumcision
* He has unpleasant smelling yellowish-green discharge from the penis