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Pediatric Urology  
Care after a Pyeloplasty

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A pyeloplasty is a procedure to relieve the obstruction in a kidney.

**What to Expect:**

Incision- There will be either one flank incision or three small abdominal incisions depending on what surgical approach is used. All incisions will have a clear, glue-like dressing. You may notice a small amount of bleeding from the incision, slight redness, bruising, or swelling around the incision. This is normal. If the incision begins to look infected, please notify your child's doctor. Signs of infection include: fever, pus-like drainage from the incision, excessive redness or swelling.

Catheter- There will be a catheter in the bladder after the surgery; it will be removed the next day or before discharge. It is normal for the urine to be blood-tinged. This may last for several weeks.

Stent- A ureteral stent is a flexible, hollow tube that is placed in the ureter (the tube that drains urine from the kidney into the bladder). The stent makes a channel for the urine to pass through and allows the kidney to drain following surgery. The stent remains in the ureter until the surgeon removes it under anesthesia. It is common to see blood in the urine while a stent is in place. You may notice the amount of blood increases as your child's activity increases.

Drain- A drain may be left under the incision following your child's surgery. This drain will be removed prior to your child going home.

Diet- Clear liquids will be given after the surgery; the diet will be increased as tolerated. When at home, fluids are important. As your child starts to feel like eating, you can slowly add more to the diet.

Bathing- Your child may bathe or shower once all drains have been removed. For the first few days, when bathing in the tub, the incision should not be under the water (submerged), if instructed by your surgeon. Limit tub baths to five minutes.

Medication- Medications will be prescribed to relieve pain and bladder spasms. It is important to monitor your child's bowel movements after surgery. The medications prescribed can cause constipation. Your child will also continue taking an antibiotic until seen for follow-up appointment.

Activity- When discharged, your child may not feel like being very active. It is important to encourage him/her to move around. Your child may return to school when comfortable and no longer requires prescription pain medication, usually 4-5 days for younger children and 7-10 days for older children. No gym, swimming, or participation in sports is permitted 2-3 weeks after surgery.

Call your doctor if:

- Fever over 101.5
- Excessive redness or swelling around the incision
- Any pus-like drainage from the incision
- Severe pain is not relieved with pain medication