

## Children's inguinal hernia repair

Children's inguinal hernia is a minor embryonic developmental disorder, which does not necessarily present itself for several years. The **hernia is a thin-walled bulging sac under the skin formed by the peritoneum** (the inner membrane lining the abdomen) **protruding through the inguinal canal**

### Procedure

In the surgery, which is performed **under general anaesthesia**, the bulging sac formed by the stretched peritoneum is tied from its base and removed.

### Treatment of pain

At the final stage of the operation, the area around the wound is anaesthetized with a long-term local anaesthetic, so that the post-operative pain would be minimal. The patient experiences pain in the wounds for a few days. **It is recommended to give regular pain relief to the child for the first few days after the procedure**, e.g:

Paracetamol

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Anti-inflammatory

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### Wound care

After the operation, swelling and bruising may occur on the wound and scrotum. The swelling disappears within a few weeks. The wound has absorbable sutures that do not need to be removed. The child may shower after 24 hours and go to sauna after a week from the procedure.

### Recovery

The anaesthetic applied to the wound may cause temporary weakness in the leg of the operated side. **On the day of the surgery, the child requires rest and adult supervision.** The child may move within the limits allowed by the pain. **The child may go to school/day-care after a couple of days.** Bigger children should not participate in physical education for two weeks.

### Contact us

If problems in healing arise, contact:

Day Surgery Unit A2 on working days from 07.00–17.00 tel. **(06) 323 1552**,  
Emergency Department at other times tel. **(06) 323 1311**, or  
Health centre or child health clinic

**We wish you happy healing!**