Orchidopexy – post-operative

What has happened?
Your son has had an operation for an undescended testis.
He has had his testis identified and mobilised through an incision in the groin. He also has a scrotal wound, where the testis has been anchored in the scrotum. The wounds have been closed with dissolving stitches.

What now?
You will take your child home on the day of the operation, after he has fully recovered from the anaesthetic. He will be able to eat and drink as normal.
Your son will have a small dressing over the wound. This may be steristrips (paper tapes) or a clear plastic dressing. The dressing may become a little stained with blood over the next 24 hours.

Do I need to give any medicines?
On operation day and the day after, give your child paracetamol (Panadol) or ibuprofen (Nurofen) for pain relief. These should be given regularly, with dose as per the bottle.
The second day after the operation, continue the medication if your child is uncomfortable, especially in the evening before bed.

Can I bath my child?
Use a sponge to clean your child on the day of the operation.
The day after the operation, you may bathe your child as normal.

What do I do with the dressing?
Leave the dressing on until it falls off. If the dressing has not detached by 7 days, soak the area in a bath and peel off slowly from the edges.

When can they return to childcare / kindergarten / school?
There is no set time when your child can return to their normal activities. Usually, your child will start doing things when they feel comfortable. They will usually be active again within a few days. They should return to school/ kindergarten/ childcare once they are managing their normal activities.

What next?
Your son will need a review by the surgical team 4-6 weeks after the operation. The surgeon will check the wounds and the position of the testes and try to answer any questions that you have. You will be sent an appointment for this clinic.
If you have not received an appointment by 2 weeks after surgery, please contact Monash Children’s Department of Paediatric Urology on 03 9594 6998.

When to worry, come back or call
- if your child develops a fever >38.5 degrees
- if the wounds become swollen, red or sore
Come back, or call the paediatric surgical registrar through the Monash Children’s Hospital switchboard on 03 9594 6666