

used to prevent nappy rash.

Your child may have a bath or shower.

Your child may return to school and resume normal activities once they are feeling well, usually after a week.

Your child should not take part in sports or contact games for 6 weeks after their operation.

When to be concerned

If the flow of urine stops flowing for more than 2-3 hours from your child's new opening.

Urine draining is foul smelling or looks unusual.

The skin around the vesicostomy becomes open or starts bleeding.

If you notice any of the above please contact the Urology Nurse Specialist

Urology Nurse 01-8921768.

01 878 4200

Bleep 915

Authors: Orla McMahon

Version: 1

Approval Date: September 2017

Review Date: September 2019

Copyright © Temple Street Children's University
Hospital

Produced by Child Health Information Centre



Care of a Vesicostomy



Hospital Number

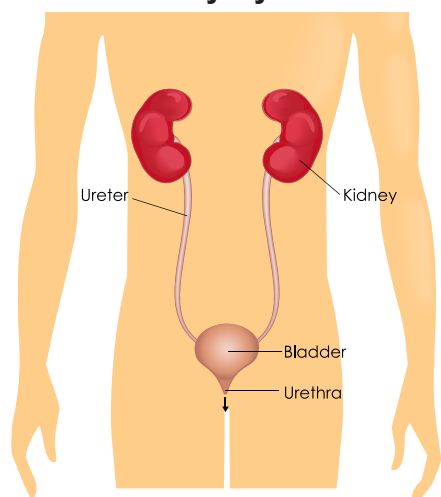
01 878 4200



What is a vesicostomy?

A vesicostomy is an operation to make an opening below your child's belly button into their bladder. After the operation, your child's bladder will drain urine continuously from this opening into their nappy or pad. The opening will be in place for a number of months or years.

Urinary System



This operation will help your child's bladder to empty completely and protect their kidneys from damage.

How long does the operation take?

The operation takes about an hour. Your child will be kept in the recovery room afterwards until they are awake and can be returned to their ward.

After surgery

Depending on how your child is after their operation, they may be able to go home that day. Some children may need to stay for a night or two after their operation; this will depend on how they are feeling and if their bladder is draining well.

Your child may have a catheter (which is a small tube) for draining urine in their new opening, or in their urethra which is the tube that we normally pee from.

Immediately after their operation, your child will have an intravenous (IV) line in their arm. This will be removed as soon as your child is drinking well.

Your child's nurse will give them medication for pain and to reduce any sickness or nausea they may have.

Because urine will continuously drain from your child's new opening, they

must wear a nappy or pad to collect or absorb the urine. Supermarket nappies will be suitable for children under 3 years of age. Children over 3 years of age may have access to continence wear from their local Public Health Nurse (PHN).



The nurse specialist will show you how to apply your child's nappy / pad or continence wear.

What to expect at home?

Your child should have minimal discomfort; give paracetamol or Ibuprofen as advised if needed.

Nappies / pads should be checked regularly and changed when wet to prevent your child's skin becoming irritated or sore. A barrier cream or Vaseline around the opening can be