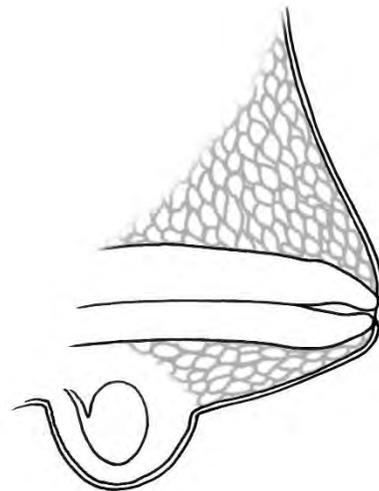


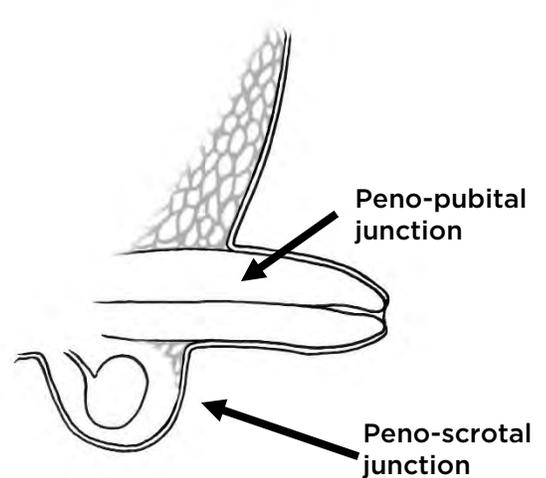
Buried Penis

What is a buried penis?

Some boys are born (congenital) with a buried penis. A buried penis is also called hidden penis, concealed penis, webbed penis or webbed scrotum. When this happens, the penis is partly hidden below the skin. The penis is usually normal length but appears shorter. This is because the shaft skin is not attached at the base of the penis and the baby's fat pad surrounds the penis. There are different degrees of a buried penis. Circumcision done in a doctor's office as a newborn can result in some of the skin on the shaft of the penis being removed, instead of just the foreskin. This makes the penis appear even more hidden and "telescope" inward.



Buried penis



Normal penis OR penis after surgery

How is it diagnosed?

Your child's primary care provider may first notice this and refer you to a pediatric urologist. Office circumcisions should not be performed in a regular doctor's office if a buried penis is found at the time of the initial evaluation. The pediatric urologist will do a simple physical exam to see if your child has a buried penis.

How is it treated?

We may recommend minor day surgery to repair the buried penis. This includes tacking or suturing the skin down at the base of the penis. This will result in the peno-pubital and peno-scrotal junctions to be more defined. If your baby was already circumcised, the surgery may be more involved requiring a tissue transfer or skin grafting. If your child did not have a circumcision, we will do one at the same time as we repair the buried penis. Surgery is recommended for babies when they are at least 6 months old. Surgery should be done before a child is potty trained and becomes more aware of their genitals. Babies tend to recover faster than older children from surgery.

To Learn More

- Urology
206-987-2509
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

Mild forms of a buried penis when a circumcision is not desired may not need any surgical intervention. As the baby gets older and the fat pad disappears, the penis will become more prominent.

After surgery

- Your child will have a bandage around their penis for the first 1 to 2 days after surgery.
 - Most children will return to regular activity a day or two after surgery.
 - Avoid rough play, straddle toys and holding your child with the front of the diaper against you or on your hip for the first week or two.
 - Bruising and swelling in the area are common. This may last for many months.
 - Your urologist will give you instructions on bathing and dressing care at the time of surgery.
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