

How to Schedule Your Baby's Circumcision

If you have decided to have your baby circumcised, you may have questions about how and when to have it done.

In this country for several decades babies were circumcised in the hospital right after delivery (often in the delivery room!). Traditionally, however, circumcisions were done at 7-8 days after birth if they were done in infancy. We do know that babies do better with the pain when they are young, and most pediatricians won't do the circumcision in their office if the baby is older than 4 weeks.

We encourage new families to wait until 5-10 days of age to do the circumcision to give the babies a chance to get adjusted to all the changes they have to make. It takes a few days for them to learn to feed, to get the mother's milk in, and to begin to regain the weight that all newborns lose. The circumcision, even if done with numbing medicine, still causes the baby some pain. They often don't feed well the day of their circumcision, and may experience some pain for several days. These early feedings are key to establishing a good milk supply and preventing engorgement, and we have observed that circumcision can interfere with this process if done too early.

Feel free to discuss these issues with the pediatric team here at UC San Diego or your baby's provider.

If your baby's doctor will do the circumcision, call their office to schedule the procedure during the week after you go home. Ask them about any recommendations they may have about feeding your baby before the circumcision, supplies to buy, etc.

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For our UCSD Pediatric patients: Our pediatricians will circumcise babies in the office after their first “well baby” check-up. They prefer to do it in the first 2 weeks of life. Please check with your insurance to see if it is a covered benefit. The doctors would like the baby to be fed while waiting for the procedure to begin. Arrive about 15 minutes before appointment time.

If you have an outside provider for your baby and they don't do circumcisions, here are some local physicians who perform circumcisions (with approximate charge):

- UCSD Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine (San Diego): 858-496-4800 \$425 or \$340 if paying cash (requires 2 visits and referral from your PCP)
- UCSD Family Medicine; \$560
 - La Jolla 858-657-8600
 - Lewis Street 619-471-9260
 - Scripps Ranch 858-657-7750
- Children's Healthcare Medical Associates (Hillcrest): 619-297-5437; \$375 (+ office visit of \$55)
- El Camino Pediatrics (Encinitas): 760-753-7143; \$350 or more
- Dr. Mohammed Bailoney (San Diego): 619-470-1945; \$250 (birth-13 days), \$350 (14-21 days)
- Children's Primary Care Medical Groups; \$384.20
 - Chula Vista: 619-426-7910
 - Encinitas: 760-436-4511
 - Carmel Valley: 858-793-1015
 - Alvarado: 619-265-3400
 - Oceanside: 760-547-1010
 - Escondido: 760-746-2641
- Pediatric Medical Associates (Vista): 760-945-3434; \$ 435 (established patient), \$560 (new patient, includes office visit)
- Neighborhood Healthcare: \$310 (under 2 weeks only)
 - El Cajon: 619-440-2751
 - Escondido: 760-520-8100