

## **Circumcision**

### **Gomco Clamp Method**

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**Goals** of circumcision 1) asepsis; 2) removal of foreskin to expose the glans completely (see diagram); 3) hemostasis; 4) cosmesis.

**Informed consent** should be obtained prior to the procedure. The American Academy of Family Physicians recommends that an objective discussion with the parents should precede consent for the procedure. The AAFP Fact Sheet on Circumcision is attached for your reference. The following risks should be specifically addressed when obtaining consents: bleeding, pain, infection, and deformity. A separate consent for the circumcision study will be obtained by one of the investigators.

The procedure is **contraindicated** for any infant who: has not stabilized from birth; is sick; is premature and not yet cleared for discharge; has laboratory studies pending for family history of bleeding disorders; has a genital anomaly such as hypospadias or chordee. It is not considered necessary for the infant to have been NPO prior to the procedure as long as personnel and equipment are available for suctioning if needed. It is advisable but not absolutely necessary for the infant to have voided prior to circumcision. Vitamin K administration should be given prior to circumcision.

**Immobilize** the infant. The penis, scrotum, pubis and groin are prepared with an antiseptic solution and draped. A careful examination of the infant should be repeated for signs of genital anomaly.

**Anesthesia**, if used, is administered next. A dorsal penile block is placed by instilling .8 -1.2cc of 1% lidocaine in the subcutaneous tissue at the base of the penis at the 10 and 2 o'clock positions (see diagram). *Epinephrine must not be used.* As with all field block anesthesia the effect is not immediate. Please allow 3-5 minutes for the anesthetic block to take effect.

**Equipment** is readied. The Gomco clamp size for 98% of newborns is 1.3cm. Test the clamp for proper alignment and make sure you have: plain gauze, safety pin, straight and curved clamps, Vaseline gauze, scissors, and scalpel blade.