

## PEDIATRIC GROIN HERNIA REPAIR

- A hernia occurs when tissue bulges out through an opening in the muscles.
- Any part of the abdominal wall can weaken and develop a hernia, but the most common sites are the groin (inguinal), the navel (umbilical) and a previous surgical incision site.

### Options

- **Open hernia repair:** An incision is made near the site and the hernia is repaired with mesh or by suturing (sewing) the muscle closed.
- **Laparoscopic hernia repair:** The hernia is repaired by mesh or sutures inserted through instruments placed into small incisions in the abdomen.
- **Nonsurgical Option:** An inguinal hernia will not go away on its own. Surgery is always recommended because of the high risk of the intestines getting caught in the hernia opening in young children.

### Benefits of the operation

An operation is the only way to repair a hernia. You can return to your normal activities and in most cases will not have further discomfort.

### Possible Risks of the operation

Return of the hernia, infection, injury to the bladder, blood vessels, intestines or nerves, difficulty passing urine, continued pain, and swelling of the testes or groin area.

### Risks of not having an operation

Your hernia may cause pain and increase in size. If your intestine becomes trapped in the hernia pouch you will have sudden pain, vomiting, and need an immediate operation. Strangulation may also cause reduced blood supply to the testes in boys and result in damage to the intestine.

### Expectations of the operation

If your child does not have complications you usually will go home the same day.

### Call your surgeon

If your child have severe pain, stomach cramping, chills, or a high fever, odor or increased drainage from your incision, or no bowel movements for 3 days.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zaid', is positioned above the printed name and credentials.

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