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### **Routine Newborn Circumcision**

You are considering a circumcision operation on your newborn child for whom you are legally responsible. A circumcision is an operation in which Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ cuts away the foreskin of the penis. The most common reasons today for the performance of circumcision operations are that it's the custom of certain segments of our society, and that many doctors feel that circumcision is wise preventative medicine. However, there are many physicians who do not recommend routine newborn circumcision.

Complications from circumcision operations are very uncommon, but they do occur. Because of this fact, your doctor can make no guarantees as to the results that might be obtained from this operation. However in the vast majority of patients, the result desired from the operation is achieved.

As with any surgical procedure, bleeding and infection are possible complications of circumcision operations. These complications can cause swelling of the penis, poor healing wounds, and the need for further operations. Very, very rarely, the penis is permanently deformed, scarred and painful after circumcision operations. Abnormalities in the flow of urine through the penis are also rare complications of circumcision. Allergic or other bad reactions to one or more of the substances used in the operation are also rare complications. Very, very rarely, allergic reactions have been known to cause death.

There are alternatives to this surgery available to you such as merely not having the surgery performed.

I have read or have had read to me the information in this form. I understand the risks and alternatives involved in this procedure. I have had the opportunity to ask any questions I may have had, and all of my questions have been answered.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed by parent or person legally authorized to sign for patient

Physician \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_