

Before your child is discharged to go home, he/she will:

- ▶ be up and about walking and playing.
- ▶ require less medication for pain.
- ▶ start eating although his/her appetite may be decreased due to lack of activity.

**\*\* Please note:** Your child could go home with a drain and/or external stent still in place and your nurse will show you how to care for these at home. \*\*

### What Can I Expect at Home?

- ▶ Your child may take a tub bath or a shower only if the drain/stent has been removed. If not, give your child sponge baths.
- ▶ All the stitches will dissolve on their own. They do not need to be removed. Depending on how your child heals, this may take anywhere from 3 weeks to 2 months.
- ▶ Your child may experience something called “bladder spasms”, which are caused by the stent in the ureter irritating the bladder. If you think your child is having bladder spasms, please call the Urology Clinic to let us know.
- ▶ It is common to see a small amount of blood in your child’s urine after this type of surgery.

### How Active Can My Child Be?

- ▶ Your child can go back to school 1 to 2 weeks after surgery
- ▶ Your child can not do **SPORTS or CONTACT GAMES for 6 weeks** after surgery.

- ▶ If your child has an internal stent, he/she may go swimming 2 weeks after surgery.
- ▶ If your child has an external stent, he/she child may not go swimming until it is taken out.
- ▶ If your child had a laparoscopic procedure, your child can go back light activities 1 week after surgery or as he/she starts to feel better.

### Are There Any Return Visits Needed?

- ▶ If your child has an internal stent, it will be removed in the operating room in 6-8 weeks after surgery.
- ▶ If you have any questions or concerns once you get home, please call 604-875-2889 and speak with our Urology Nurse Clinician.
- ▶ If you have any **urgent** concerns, call the Urology Clinic 604-875-2734 during regular office hours or come to the BC Children’s Hospital Emergency department after hours.

Developed by the professionals of the Urology Clinic with assistance from the Learning and Development Department.

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# Pyeloplasty

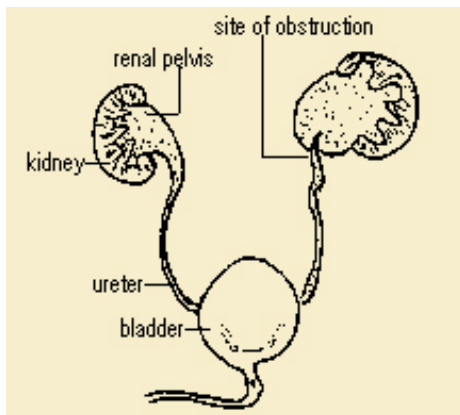
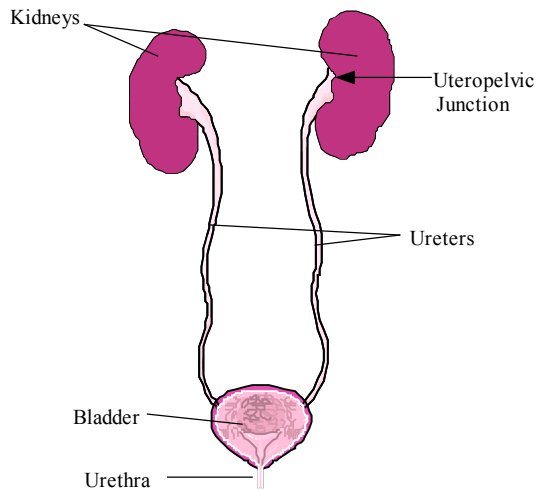


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## What is Pyeloplasty?

Pyeloplasty (**PYE**-eh-loh-plas-tee) is a type of surgery to remove a blockage where the ureters and the kidneys are joined (uteropelvic junction). This blockage happens when there is a narrowing of the ureter where it joins the kidney. This narrowing stops the normal flow of urine down the ureter and into the bladder. When the urine is blocked it causes a condition called **hydronephrosis** (high-droh-neh-FROH-sis) and part of the kidney called the renal pelvis becomes wider.



Example of a blocked uteropelvic junction.

The pyeloplasty can be done in two ways:

1. Open: where the surgeon will make a cut (incision) through the skin to do the surgery.
2. Laparoscopic: where the surgeon will make smaller cuts and do the surgery using a special video camera called a **laparoscope**.

Your Urologist will decide which way will work better for your child based on several factors such as anatomy and weight.

## Are there any complications for this surgery?

The complications are rare. They can be:

- ▶ infection
- ▶ bleeding
- ▶ urinary leakage
- ▶ the narrowing may happen again due to scar formation

## How long will my child stay in the hospital?

Your child will be in the hospital

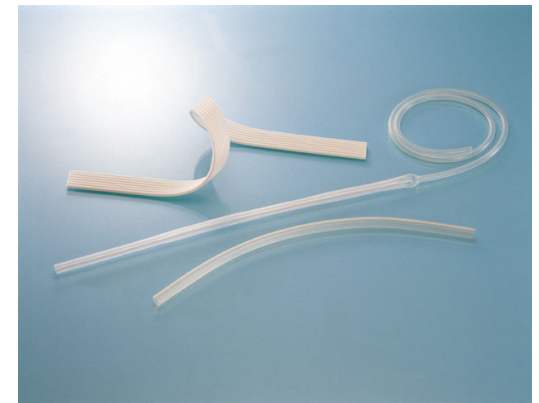
- ▶ 2-5 nights for open surgery
- ▶ 2-3 nights for laparoscopic surgery

## What can I expect after surgery?

After surgery, your child:

- ▶ will have a small drain (called a **Penrose** or **JP drain**) near the incision line.

- ▶ may have a stent which is a tube left across the repaired area to drain urine. An internal stent cannot be seen on the outside of the body. An external stent can be seen and it will be connected to a drainage bag.
- ▶ will have a dressing on the incision line.
- ▶ will have 3-4 small incisions with dressings on them, **if your child had a laparoscopic surgery**.
- ▶ will have an intravenous line for fluid replacement. This will be removed as soon as your child drinks well.
- ▶ will receive medication for discomfort and/or nausea as needed.
- ▶ will gradually progress to a regular diet, usually after the first 24 hours.
- ▶ may have a catheter in his/her bladder for 24 to 36 hours after the surgery.



Example of JP and Penrose Drains