



PAEDIATRIC ACUTE CARE GUIDELINE

Balanitis

Scope (Staff):	All Emergency Department Clinicians
Scope (Area):	Emergency Department

This document should be read in conjunction with this **DISCLAIMER**
<http://kidshealthwa.com/about/disclaimer/>

Balanitis

Balanitis is a irritation and inflammation of the foreskin and glans, often associated with poor hygiene. There is usually an infective component to the condition, and there may be an associated nappy rash.

Balanitis is an irritation and inflammation of the foreskin and glans, often associated with poor hygiene. There is usually an infective component to the condition, and there may be an associated nappy rash.

Background

- Incidence 4%
- Usually seen in boys less than 4 years

Assessment

- Mild to severe swelling of the foreskin and glans
- Erythema

Investigations

- No investigations are required

Differential diagnoses

- Paraphimosis

Management

Initial management

If the patient is still **able** to void urine:

- Oral antibiotics – Cephalexin or co-trimoxazole (e.g. Bactrim)
- Chloromycetin ointment topically 3 times a day (Bactroban is a reasonable alternative)
- Twice daily salt baths
- Referral to Surgical Outpatients **only** if recurrent episodes

If the patient is **unable** to void urine:

- Refer to Paediatric Surgical Team
- If the bladder is full, consider “in-out” urinary catheterisation to empty bladder. Try to avoid an indwelling catheter if possible.
- IV or oral antibiotics
- Twice daily salt baths

Medications

- [Analgesia](#)
- [Antibiotics](#)

Referrals and follow-up


- If doubt exists about the diagnosis of balanitis, or there is paraphimosis, seek an urgent surgical opinion.

Tags

balanitis, foreskin, glans, inflammation, inflammation, nappy, paraphimosis, penis, rash, urine, void

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person

with a disability.

File Path:			
Document Owner:	Dr Meredith Borland HoD, PMH Emergency Department		
Reviewer / Team:	Kids Health WA Guidelines Team		
Date First Issued:	4 September, 2013	Version:	
Last Reviewed:	12 October, 2015	Review Date:	12 October, 2017
Approved by:	Dr Meredith Borland	Date:	12 October, 2015
Endorsed by:	Medical Advisory Committee	Date:	12 October, 2015
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 		
Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled			