

## CARE OF THE INTACT PENIS: LEAVE IT ALONE! Supporting quotes

From Raising Boys by Steve Biddulph (Australia), 2008:

“Q: Should I pull back the foreskin to keep his penis really clean?

A: This is not necessary; in fact, it’s not a good idea at all. At this age, the foreskin is adhered to the end of the penis. Toddlers naturally pull back their foreskin little by little and at about three or four years of age you will notice that it retracts. At the age of four you can tell him from time to time in the bath to pull it back and wash around the end of the penis. Show him how to leave the foreskin back until he is dry after a shower, and how to pull the foreskin back when urinating so as to keep urine from staying underneath it.”

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Post from Perspective at Mothering.com, 3/1/08

It’s interesting, how in America we worry about the penis so much, if you’re circumcised or uncircumcised, all this talk and worry about what to do!

I have talked to a lot of intact guys (teenagers, my age) online on my board. And they have many ways they treat their penis. Some of them pull back their foreskin when they pee, some never have (and never had a problem), some wash by just pulling back in the shower and letting a little water get on there, some actually scrub, some even use mild soap. And all are fine.

I think the biggest lesson we Americans have to learn is not exactly how to care for an intact penis, but to stop worrying about them. It’s not like a special hairdo that you can only wash with special shampoos. The foreskin is natural and 9 times out of 10 whatever the boy ends up doing on instinct will probably be just fine.

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From Today’s Parent article on circumcision (Canada), 2006:

“...how to care for an uncircumcised penis – which is to leave it alone until the foreskin is retractable,” says Walk. Anderson explains the issue this way: “There’s no evidence there’s any need to clean under the foreskin before puberty,” he says.

Peter Anderson is a professor of urology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Robin Walker is a neonatologist and spokesperson for the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS).

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From Vincent Iannelli MD, Care of the Uncircumcised penis, 2004  
[http://pediatrics.about.com/od/weeklyquestion/a/04\\_penis\\_care.htm](http://pediatrics.about.com/od/weeklyquestion/a/04_penis_care.htm)

“And it does seem that one of the biggest problems that leads to children needing a circumcision later in life is improper care of their uncircumcised penis, with this improper care usually involves a parent being told to retract their child’s foreskin before it is ready to be retracted. The best advice that a parent can follow is to simply ‘leave it alone’ and let a child retract and wash his penis once he discovers that it is retractable.”