

Undescended Testes

FACTS:

- This is a condition in newborns when one or both of the male testes have not passed down into the scrotal sac.
- Undescended testes occurs in males in approximately 4.5% of all male infants.
- It is more common in premature male infants. Up to 30% of premature males will have undescended testes
- Undescended testes may occur for several reasons, including prematurity, hormonal disorders, spina bifida, retractile testes or testicular absence.
- Undescended testes is diagnosed by the inability to feel testes on examination.



Undescended testes is a very common special need in boys.



It occurs frequently in premature babies.



Undescended Testes

TREATMENT:

- The condition of undescended testes usually resolves without any intervention by the time the infant is six months old.
- The resolution occurs when the testes descend and remain in the scrotal sac.
- If by six months the testes have not descended, hormonal treatment or surgical repair may be considered to correct the problem.

COMPLICATIONS:

- Infertility is possible if both testes are affected and not corrected.
- There is a considerable increased risk of cancer if uncorrected by age 30 to 40 years.
- There is an increased risk of hernia formation if uncorrected



Most of the time the testes come down on their own.



If they do not, medical treatment can usually fix it.