

- Adhesions
- Concealed penis
- Urethral fistula
- Meatal stenosis
- Necrosis or amputation

Pain in unanesthetized infants: Long-term consequences unknown, but short-term stresses include increased heart rate, behavior changes, prolonged crying, increased cortisol levels, and decreased blood oxygenation

Benefits*

Prevention of penile cancer and posthitis (inflammation of prepuce)

Decreased incidence of balanitis (inflammation of glans), urinary tract infections in male infants, and some sexually transmitted infections later in life (herpes, syphilis, gonorrhea)

Decreased incidence of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, human papillomavirus (HPV), and cervical cancer (in female partner)

Prevention of complications associated with later circumcision

Preservation of male's body image that is consistent with peers (only in countries or cultures where procedure is common)

* Although there is risk reduction for these conditions with circumcision, the absolute risk of conditions (such as penile cancer and infant urinary tract infections) is so low that neither the American Academy of Pediatrics nor the American Medical Association recommends circumcision for prevention. There is growing evidence regarding circumcision and decreased transmission of sexually transmitted infections ([Weiss, Dickson,](#)