

Non-cancerous diseases of the penis and scrotum

The penis can be affected by congenital anomalies, inflammation and tumors.

Congenital anomalies

Hypospadias a epispadias

Abnormal urethral outlets on the ventral area of the penis (**hypospadias** – more common, 1:300 newborn boys) or on the dorsal area of the penis (**epispadias**) may enter due to malformations of the urethral furrow and urethral canal. These anomalies may occur alone or with other birth defects (such as urinary tract malformations, testicular descent disorders). **The outcome is often narrowed and obstruction occurs**, which is associated with the risk of **urinary tract infection** and the possibility of **cancer**.

Phimosis

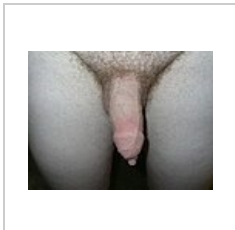
Phimosis is a condition where the opening in the foreskin is so small that it prevents the foreskin from pulling over the glans penis. It can be congenital or acquired. Secretion and detritus (= *smegmata*) accumulate in the foreskin sacc. It is associated with the development of a secondary infection that can result into scarring and it is also associated with an increased **risk of developing a cancer**.

Inflammation

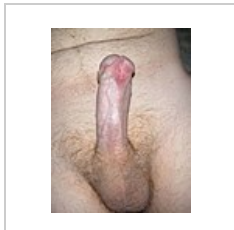
Inflammation of the penis affects the **glans and foreskin**. Specific inflammation (syphilis, gonorrhea, granuloma inguinale, lymphogranuloma venereum, herpes genitalis) are sexually transmitted. The skin of the penis can also be affected by systemic skin inflammations – eczema, psoriasis, lichen planus.

Balanopostitis

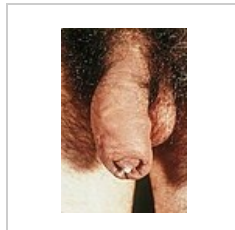
Balanopostitis (inflammation of the glans penis and foreskin) is non-specific infection that can be caused by a wide range of microorganisms. The most common agents are *Candida albicans*, anaerobic bacteria, *Gardnerella* and pyogenic bacteria. Most cases are caused by **poor hygiene** in uncircumcised men, where the accumulation of corneal epithelial cells, sweat and detritus acts as a local irritant. Persistence of purulent infection leads into inflammatory ulcerations to scarring and is a common cause of phimosis.



Phimosis



Hypospadias



Inflammatory discharge in gonorrhea

References

Related articles

- Tumors of the penis
- Phimosis
- Syphilis
- Gonorrhea
- Genital herpes
- Cryptorchidism

References

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- VAN DER HORST, H J R - DE WALL, L L. Hypospadias, all there is to know. *Eur J Pediatr* [online]. 2017, vol. 176, no. 4, p. 435-441, Available from <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5352742/?tool=pubmed>>. ISSN 0340-6199 (print), 1432-1076.