



## PEDIATRIC UROLOGY CASE REPORTS

ISSN: 2148-2969

Journal homepage: <http://www.pediatricurologycasereports.com>

# Using Coban™ elastic bandage in penile wound dressing: A technical brief report

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**Abstract** One of the main issues in the penile surgery is wound dressing. There are several varied methods have been reported for circumcision or hypospadias dressing. We aim to report our experiment with Coban™ dressing in penile surgery.

**Key words** Penile surgery; child; wound dressing; elastic bandage.

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*Accepted for publication: 15 December 2014*

## INTRODUCTION

The penile surgery practices including circumcision and hypospadias repair takes wide place in pediatric surgery. While numerous varied methods described for penile repair, there are applied wide range of techniques to wound dressing after surgery [1-4]. We wanted to report our experience with a product of a self- adherent elastic

bandage that is produced for wounds dressing.

## CASE REPORT

This report was prepared with all children who had dressed with a self- adherent elastic bandage (Coban™, 3 M Health Care) after penile surgery in our clinic. Technically, firstly double folded aseptice gauze which has prepared with nitrofurazone (Furacine ® 2%, Eczacıbaşı, Turkey) pomad was wrapped around the penile shaft. Then the Coban™ wrap applied one full wrap and overlap without stretching along penile length. It was sticked only to itself without

any attempt, and glans was left open to follow the circulation (Fig. 1).



**Fig. 1.** Photograph shows Coban™ dressing after penile surgery.

During the first 6 hours after the operation, the circulation of the glans penis was checked every hour. If appearance of the glans is ischemic, Coban™ was released without removing the dressing, and was wrapped the looser. The parents of the discharged patients were informed about the glans ischemia. This dressing stayed 24 hours after circumcision, and about three days after hypospadias repair.

A pressure dressing wrapped with Coban™ upon nitrofurazone gauze dressing was used in 720 patients who underwent penile surgery. It was loosened in 32 cases who detected ischemia. No serious complication was observed.

## DISCUSSION

The wound dressing holds an important place in penile surgery. It's essential to control post-operative edema and prevent hematoma during recovery. The dressings have to sufficiently pressure to the flaps and grafts without stopping blood circulation. It also must be quickly and easily applied and it has to be cheap and non- allergenic for using. There are several materials have been used for these purpose like silastic foam, elastic bandage, glove finger, and Opsite® [1-5]. In spite of that, the correct choice of dressing is still challenging and there is no consensus about their use. All these methods mentioned above have some advantages over one to another.

Coban™ is a cohesive elastic wrap constructed from a nonwoven material and elastic fibers (Fig. 2).



**Fig. 2.** A Coban™ roll and a prepared strip for dressing.

The cohesive properties allow the wrap to stick to itself but not to other materials or skin. Coban self-adherent wrap is intended for use as an elastic wrap to provide compression or support, or to secure dressings or devices.

In penile surgery the Coban™ is allow to help minimize swelling, control bleeding and penile stabilization. Alternatively it is

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easy to use, cheap, easily removed and comfortable for patients. We believe that the Coban™ wrap procedure is very effective application for penile surgery.

## Acknowledgements

The author(s) declare that they have no competing interests and financial support.

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