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Hernia in Children



What is an inguinal hernia?

It is a congenital hernia that appears as a protrusion or swelling in the child's inguinal region, which is an area in the lower abdomen, and this hernia contains a peritoneal sac through which the intestines, abdominal fat, or organs such as the bladder, appendix or ovary may descend.

What are the causes of inguinal hernia?

Failure of the peritoneal duct to decay It is normal for this duct to close as soon as the testicle descends into the scrotum in males as well as in females before birth.

The incidence of hernias may increase in premature babies and those with small weights at birth.



What is the incidence of inguinal hernia?

It occurs more often **in males than in females**, due to the descent of the testicle in the scrotum, which causes it to descend with a part of the peritoneal duct that may fail to close.

How was an inguinal hernia diagnosed?

1. The appearance of **protrusion or swelling** observed by the mother in the inguinal area with crying or coughing.
2. Pressure on the **abdomen** and then clinical examination in the pediatric surgery clinic Diagnosis does not require analysis or radiology.

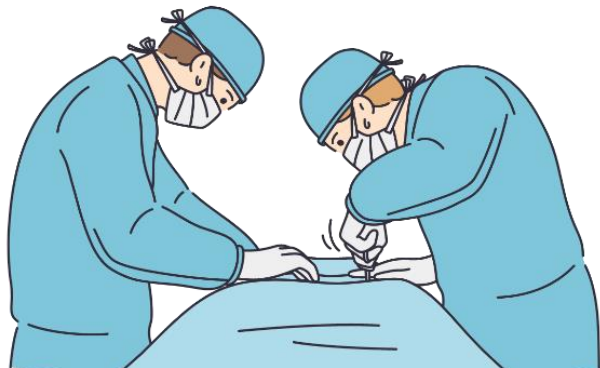


How was inguinal hernia treated?

It should be **treated surgically** with a small opening in the inguinal region within **2-4 weeks** of discovery.

What are the risks if surgery for inguinal hernia is delayed?

- Suffocation or obstruction of the intestine or descending organs in hernia, ischemia and then the need for resection.
- Damage to the testicle in **males** due to the pressure of the organs on the blood vessels supplying them.

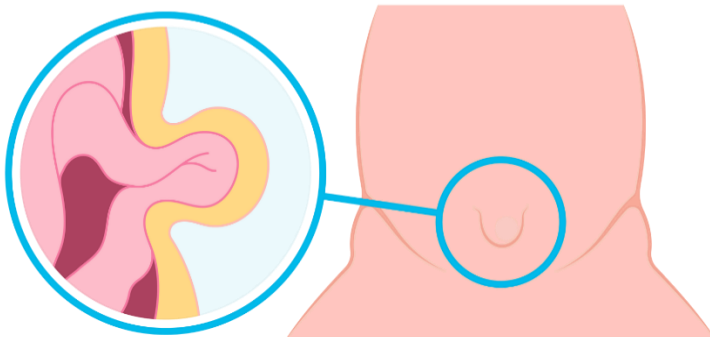


Is the use of belts or coins useful for inguinal hernia?

No, it may cause suffocation of the intestines or descending organs in the hernia and should be avoided

What is a umbilical hernia?

It is an congenital hernia in the [navel area](#) where it appears as swelling or protrusion with crying , coughing or during pulling when defecating.



What are the risks of having an umbilical hernia?

Umbilical hernia does not cause any risks except in very rare cases.

How was umbilical hernia treated?

Follow-up every 6 months until the age of 4-5 years, where it disappears without any intervention if it continues to exist, the hernia is repaired at the age of 4-5 years.

Does using a belt or coins help for umbilical hernia?

No, it is not useful and contraindicated to use.

Sources and references:

All images used from Canva.com

Audit and Auditing:

The content of this booklet has been reviewed by the consultants of the
Pediatric Surgery Department at King Fahd University Hospital.

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