

A NEW CIRCUMCISION TECHNIC

In an attempt to simplify the operation of circumcision an instrument consisting of two parts is used. The first is a spindle-like part having bell-shaped ends of a large and a small size. Around each end is a groove into which the wire ring of the second part contracts. The spindle is hollow,

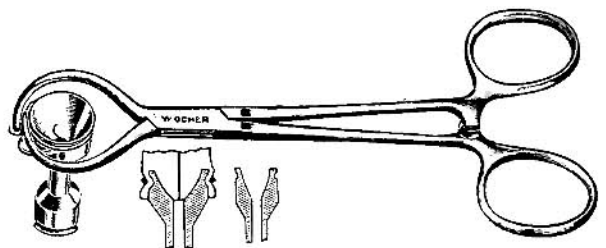


Fig. 1

to prevent a vacuum attaching the instrument to the glans, and to permit escape of urine in case a baby should void during the operation. The second part is like a hemostat with curved beaks into which is fitted a wire ring which expands and contracts as the instrument is opened and closed. As the beaks open, the wire ring opens on one side to permit it to be slipped onto the spindle from the side rather than over the end.

In changing the instrument to a different size the opposite end of the spindle is used and the wire ring is replaced by one of the other size, a procedure which is as quick and easy as changing the wire in a tonsil snare. However, unless it is necessary to change sizes, the same wire does for an indefinite number of circumcisions. The smaller size

is suitable for boys from birth to six or seven years of age, and the larger size for older males.

The circumcision is performed by making a dorsal slit and freeing the adhesions between the prepuce and the glans. The prepuce is then stretched over the bell-shaped end of the spindle and held in place by the thumb and index finger of the left hand while the wire ring clamp is slipped onto the spindle at the level of the groove with the other hand. The wire ring is then contracted, crushing the prepuce into the groove. The instrument is left in place about ten minutes, after which the prepuce is trimmed off close above the wire with a scalpel and the instrument removed. Usually no suturing is required and no bleeding occurs.

The advantages of the technic are: it facilitates the operation, it saves suture material, and the completed operation is smoother.

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