

Going for a genital examination

A guide for children



Why am I being seen today?

Someone is worried that you might have been hurt in the genital area. Or you might have soreness or an infection there. They have asked for you to be seen by a children's doctor.



What does genital examination mean?

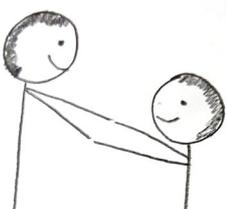
Your genitals are between your legs, under your pants. Doctors sometimes need to look there and at your bottom to check that you are okay.

When doctors check your body to make sure you are okay this is called an examination.



Remember:

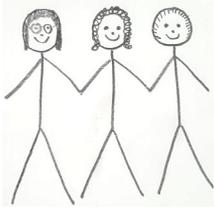
- Everyone is there just to help you.
- You can ask any questions you like.
- You can ask to bring an adult you trust with you.
- You can bring your favourite game, toy or book.
- You can ask to speak to the doctor on your own.
- The examination **doesn't** hurt. You can say no or stop at any time.
- It's normal to feel a bit nervous, but we are there to listen to you and to help keep you safe.



Before the doctor sees you:

You can choose an adult you trust to be in the room with you when you are checked over.

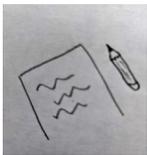
Someone will let you and your parent or carer know where to come and why they want you to see a doctor.



Who will I see?

When you and your parent or carer come to the hospital, there will be a children's doctor and a children's nurse. There might be other adults there as well, such as a social worker. They will tell you who everyone is.

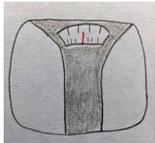
Not everyone will stay in the room when the doctor checks you over.



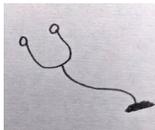
What will happen at the examination?

Before the doctor starts to examine you they will explain what will happen. They will ask for your parent's or carer's written permission, and yours if you are old enough. This is called consent.

The doctor will ask you and your parent or carer about your health.



The nurse or the doctor will weigh you and measure your height.



The doctors and nurse will check your body over. You can choose who else you want to be in the room with you when they do this, like a family member or an adult you trust.

The doctor will listen to your heart and feel your tummy. They will look at your skin and in your ears and mouth.



The doctors will ask you to lie on a couch. You will have a sheet or blanket to cover you. The doctors and nurse will use a special camera to help look at your genital area and your bottom. They will show you how the camera works before they use it. It does not touch you.



Sometimes the doctors use soft cotton buds that they touch lightly on your skin. They do not go inside your body. The doctors will show one to you before they start the examination.



What happens next?

The doctor will explain to you and your parent and carer what they think at the end of the examination. Sometimes more tests will be needed. If they are, the doctor will explain them to you.

The social worker and doctor will talk to you and to your parent or carer to find out what everyone thinks. They will explain what will happen next.