

Cord care



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1. Usually the premature baby's cord has dried and fallen off by the time he goes home.
2. If the stump (place cord was attached) is moist, clean it several times a day (at least twice a day or even with every diaper change) with a cotton ball soaked in 70% plain rubbing alcohol. This will help it dry.
3. Try to keep the diaper below the belly button until the cord has completely healed. This lets air get to the cord and dry it.
4. Call the doctor if the belly button becomes red, bleeds or smells bad.
5. Sponge bathe rather than tub bathe the baby until the cord has fallen off and the belly button has completely healed.