

Values Clarification Activity on Circumcision

Objectives:

1. To explore personal thoughts and feelings about circumcision in general and about performing the procedure.
2. To think about how you might counsel or discuss the procedure with parents who are considering circumcision for their son.
3. To think about how your opinions about circumcision may influence how you interact with families that may have a different opinion about circumcision.

Ground Rules:

1. Make "I" statements – "I believe . . .," "I feel that. . ."
2. No such thing as a wrong answer
3. Everyone has the right to pass

General Feelings about Circumcision

Did you grow up with any experiences or values (ie, religious, cultural, personal) around circumcision that influence your beliefs about the procedure? Have those changed since being in medicine?

What information would you provide the parents of a son who are considering circumcision? What constitutes informed consent for a circumcision procedure?

Feelings about the procedure

What factors will determine whether you decide to perform circumcisions in your own practice? If you do not plan to perform circumcisions, how will you inform new parents about their options for circumcision?

Summarize thoughts to bring back to the whole group