

13.1 HYDROCELE

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
DEFINITION:	A hydrocele is a fluid filled sac surrounding a testicle that results in swelling of the scrotum. Most hydroceles occur in male infants and will disappear without treatment. Older boys and adult men can develop a hydrocele due to inflammation or injury within the scrotum.
SUBJECTIVE:	May Include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No symptoms. 2. Painless enlarged scrotum. 3. Sensation of heaviness, fullness, or dragging. 4. Mild discomfort radiating along the inguinal area to the mid portion of the back.
OBJECTIVE:	Assess as Indicated: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May have an enlarged scrotum that is non-tender to touch. 2. Transillumination – the light will outline the testicle, indicating clear fluid.
LABORATORY:	May Include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CBC. 2. Urinalysis.
ASSESSMENT:	Hydrocele.
PLAN:	Refer to physician.
EDUCATION:	Emphasize the importance of follow-up care.
REFERENCES:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mayo Clinic. <i>Diseases and Conditions</i>. Hydrocele. (http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hydrocele/basics/definition/con-20024139). 2. Urology Care Foundation. What are Hydroceles and Inguinal Hernias? (www.urologyhealth.org/urologic-conditions/hydroceles-and-inguinal-hernia).