**Parental Statement of Desire to Respect Genital Integrity in our Male Child at Increased Risk of UTI**

\*\*\*(THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE REVISED BY THE PARENTS TO BE APPROPRIATE TO THEIR SITUATION AND ACCURATELY REFLECT THEIR PERSONAL VIEWS. THIS IS A SAMPLE DOCUMENT ONLY.)\*\*\*

Dear Physician,

Our child has been diagnosed with a health condition that puts him at increased risk of urinary tract infection (UTI). We have considered the recommendation for circumcision to reduce the risk of UTIs. We understand the following:

1. Both circumcision and UTI create risks for our child.
2. Some studies have shown a reduced risk of urinary tract infection after male circumcision.
3. Some studies show that when other preventive measures are used, circumcision status is not a factor.

We are aware of the following measures that are also effective for reducing a child’s risks of acquiring a UTI and developing long-term damage from a UTI:

1. Use of antibiotic therapy to treat infections.
2. Use of antibiotic or cranberry to prevent infections.
3. Surgery or procedures to address congenital problems leading to the increased risk.

We believe that with appropriate medical therapy and care, we can give our child the best start and minimize the problems he will have from this condition. We believe that the removal of healthy genital tissue as a preventive measure infringes upon a childs’ rights to autonomy and genital integrity. We do not believe that removing functioning parts of the genitals is an ethical choice for our child when there are other treatment options available, and we believe that doing so violates our responsibility to make decisions for him that are necessary for his well-being.

We appreciate the care you are providing as our child’s physician, and we welcome you to present additional information about our child’s condition that you believe is important. As parents, we bear the responsibility of considering all recommendations of treatments that may benefit our child and for choosing effective options that will create the least harm in the long run.

Sincerely,

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