

Balloon Notes

Caring for your child.



Gastroschisis and Omphalocele

What are gastroschisis and omphalocele?

[Gastroschisis](#) and [omphalocele](#) are two types of conditions where internal organs are exposed through a hole in the belly or abdomen.

Some gastroschisis and omphalocele facts

- Gastroschisis is when the wall of the belly does not close before the baby is born. It leaves an opening next to the belly button. This lets the intestines come through the opening and lay outside of the baby's belly.
- Omphalocele is when belly organs push out through the baby's umbilical cord. This allows the organs to lay outside of the baby's belly. They are covered by the umbilical cord.
- They are congenital health problems, which means babies are born with them.
- Ultrasound imaging (picture of the belly) can be used to diagnose and monitor both conditions.
- Surgery will be needed for both.

Complication

- Gastroschisis or omphalocele can happen alone, or your baby can have other health problems.