



## **Nephrectomy**

### [Kidney cut off by scalpel](#)

Surgery to remove all or some of the affected kidney(s) is called a nephrectomy. A bilateral nephrectomy is considered a last resort treatment option and is only performed if a kidney transplant is possible. Tissue removed during this procedure can be biopsied to confirm the presence of Wilms' tumor.

## **Chemotherapy**

### [Chemo-head-wrap](#)

Chemotherapy can be used to shrink the tumor before surgery to allow for more conservative removal of the kidney(s). This treatment can also be used after surgery to destroy any remaining cancer cells.

## **Radiation**

### [Radiation-radio](#)

Radiation therapy may also be used as a treatment modality after surgery has been performed. Postoperative radiation is often used for children with a large tumor, or with cancer that has metastasized.

## **Considerations**

### **Do Not Palpate Abdomen**

#### [No-sign Paw on Abdomen](#)

Healthcare workers should never palpate the abdomen of a child with Wilms' tumor, as this increases the risk of rupturing the encapsulated tumor, which could cause cancer cells to spread to other areas of the body. A preoperative tissue biopsy should also be avoided.

### **Children Under 5 Years Old**

#### [Children Less Than \(5\) Hand](#)

Wilms' tumor will appear in children by the age of five with most diagnoses occurring between ages two and three.