



POST-OP EAR TUBE INSTRUCTIONS

PAIN: Any procedure that requires manipulating the ear drum is painful but typically recedes after the procedure is complete. We recommend using over-the-counter pain medication for the first 1-2 days after the procedure to reduce discomfort. You may use acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) as needed.

DIET: There are no diet restrictions after the surgery. It is important to drink plenty of fluids.

BLEEDING: Bleeding is not very common. Occasionally you may see a little blood on the first day, but if it should continue after the first day please call our office.

MEDICATIONS: Most patients will not be given any prescriptions after surgery. You may receive a small bottle of ear drops called “Ciprodex” which you will use as directed.

WATER EXPOSURE: If the ear is submerged while bathing or swimming after surgery water will get behind the ear drum which can cause an infection. To prevent this, ear plugs should be used if your child is likely to submerge their ears. You can purchase these at our office or use ear putty available at your local pharmacy. You do not need to use plugs to shower, nor if you are washing your child’s hair by pouring water over their head.

FOLLOW-UP: Each patient who undergoes surgery should be seen in our office within 10-14 days after surgery. Please come in so we can ensure your child is healing properly. This appointment should be scheduled at the time you scheduled your surgery; however, if this was overlooked, please call the office to schedule this visit.

DRAINAGE: If there is drainage from the child’s ears, continue to use the drops as directed. However, if the drainage continues after a week, please call the office to be seen and we will get you in as soon as possible to be checked. We do not want you to wait until your scheduled appointment.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL/WORK: Typically children can return to normal activity, such as preschool/school, the day after the procedure. We can write an excuse for any missed school when you come in for your follow-up visit.

THINGS TO WATCH FOR: If the child has a temperature above 101 degrees that doesn’t come down with acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin), excessive bleeding, or increased pain, please call the office.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS: Should you have any concerns, questions, or problems during your post-operative recovery period please do not hesitate to contact the office at [208-656-9646](tel:208-656-9646) during business hours, or [208-419-3254](tel:208-419-3254) after hours. If unable to reach our nurse on call please go to Madison Memorial Hospital ER and they will page your doctor.

Sincerely – Dr.’s McMaster and Peterson