



CARE AFTER TYMPANOSTOMY TUBE INSERTION (EAR TUBES)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Your child has had small tubes placed in the eardrums to treat chronic infection and inflammation of the middle ear space. Please follow the instructions carefully.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOME:

- Expectations:** A small amount of bleeding, drainage, and discomfort may be present for 3-4 days after surgery. If this continues for greater than 5 days or is associated with pain or high fever (greater than 102°), please call our office at **(716) 362-9730**.
- Activity:** Normal activity may be resumed after discharge. Children may return to school the day after surgery, unless this surgery has been performed as part of another surgery in which diet restrictions are required.
- Ear Care:** For three (3) days, including the day of surgery, protect the ears from water by inserting cotton saturated with Vaseline in each ear canal when bathing, washing hair, or playing in a pool.
- Please continue to protect your child's ears if he/she is submerging his/her head in soapy bath, pond, or lake water or going under water to a depth of greater than 3 feet, until the follow-up visit or as instructed by your surgeon.
- Diet:** Normal diet may be resumed after discharge, unless this surgery has been performed as part of another surgery in which diet restrictions are required.
- Medications:** A prescription for eardrops may be given to you after the surgery. Use the eardrops as directed. If the drops cause pain or irritability, discontinue use. You do not need to call us if this occurs.
- Follow-up:** Your child needs to follow-up in our office 4-6 weeks after surgery. The post-operative appointment is written on your pre-operative scheduling sheet.

If you have any questions, problems, or need to schedule (or reschedule) an appointment, please contact our office at **(716) 362-9730**.