

CARE AFTER SURGERY MYRINGOTOMY AND TUBE PLACEMENT

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INDICATIONS: A myringotomy is performed and pressure equalization tubes are placed in the ears to resolve chronic or recurrent ear infections, chronic middle ear fluid or eustachian tube dysfunction.

EXPECTATIONS: Children usually are very grumpy and fussy following the general anesthetic for several hours. Don't be alarmed by a bloody drainage from the ears. Clicking and popping sounds are common for a few weeks after surgery.

DIET: Patients may eat a regular diet as tolerated. If tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy are also performed, follow the diet recommendations listed on the instruction sheet for those procedures.

MEDICATIONS: Three drops of antibiotic solution to each ear twice a day for 3 - 7 days. Keep the leftover drops and restart them if pus-like drainage is seen.

Call your surgeon if you restart the drops for further instructions. Myringotomy and tube placement usually does not result in significant discomfort. You may use an age, and weight appropriate dose of Tylenol or Advil if needed.

Caution: Do not take Advil or Motrin if simultaneous tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy have been performed. These medications may cause bleeding.

ACTIVITY: Resume normal activity.

WOUND CARE: Keep water out of the ears after surgery.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: For children older than 5 years, use ear plugs in the bath and while swimming. For active kids, neoprene head bands are helpful to keep ear plugs in place while swimming. They are available at most sporting goods stores, or you can contact our office. Call for pus-like drainage, fever > 101° F, or any questions.

FOLLOW UP: Two weeks and then every 6 months.