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Ears, Nose & Throat • Sinus, Allergy and • Sleep Apnea Specialist



Post-Operative Instructions Ear Tubes

Use ear drops after surgery– 5 drops in each ear, twice per day for 3 days. Keep the rest of the bottle for future usage if necessary.

Use acetaminophen as needed for discomfort, this should be minimal.

Ear tubes may drain either bloody or infected fluid from time to time. If this occurs, do not be alarmed, just start the ear drops and call our office for an appointment.

Swimming with ear tubes is okay. The biggest risk is that an infection could occur and cause drainage. There are many types of ear plugs that may be tried but they usually do not work well. We usually do not worry about it too much. The main thing to avoid is allowing soapy water to get into the ear. Also avoid bay or ocean water. Swimming pool water will not generally lead to an infection. Worst case, there will be drainage and you will need to start the ear drops.

We will check the hearing about a month after the tubes. We will check the tubes in clinic every 6 months or so. They generally will fall out in about 6 months to a year. When they fall out, there may be some bloody drainage at the time. Just start the ear drops as above. Sometimes, they may need to be replaced.

For any questions, call our office at 850-889-4550. If it is after hours, you will have the option of being connected to an on-call physician. If it is an emergency, do not call our office, call 911 or go the ER.