

## Post-Operative Instructions: Ventilation Ear Tube Insertion

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- **Ear Drops** – Your doctor may prescribe ear drops to use after placement of ear tubes. Apply drops to the ear as prescribed by your doctor. Check with your doctor/pharmacist for specific instructions. If the drops produce excessive burning or discomfort, please call our office for further instructions.
- **Pain** - is generally mild, but if present, it is best treated with alternating doses of Children's Tylenol® and Children's Ibuprofen. New data shows improved pain mgmt. with multimodal therapy.
- **Diet** - clear liquids are best for the first few hours after surgery. If well tolerated, your child can proceed to a regular diet later in the day.
- **Drainage** - fluid in the ear is removed during surgery. However, there may be some drainage of thin yellow fluid or blood-tinged fluid for a few days after surgery. If this persists beyond 7 days, please call your doctor.
- Your child may return to school the day after surgery.
- **Bathing, Swimming, and Water sports** – Routine water precautions (i.e. keeping water out the ears) is no longer considered necessary after ear tube placement. Your child can take a shower, bath, or swim without any particular precautions (i.e. ear plugs). However if your child experiences pain in the ear after water exposure, you may want to consider purchasing water tight ear plugs.
- With future ear infections, you may notice drainage from the ear of yellow or blood-tinged fluid. This should not alarm you; rather it indicates that the infected fluid is draining through the tube. Contact your pediatrician for treatment. If drainage persists despite treatment with antibiotics and eardrops, your pediatrician may arrange for an appointment in our office.