



POSTOPERATIVE CARE OF THE MYRINGOTOMY PATIENT

Water protection

Patients should protect the ears by placing earplugs in the ears only when swimming, at depths beyond 3 feet. They are not routinely needed when bathing.

Plugs may be silicone wax, custom made or cotton balls coated with Vaseline.

Eardrops

Ear drops will be prescribed at the pre-op visit. **Please bring the ear drops to the surgery center the day of surgery.** Please see the label from the pharmacy to determine how many days the drops are to be used after surgery, as this varies by physician.

Ear drainage

Drainage of fluid from an ear with a tube in it is common, especially in children during upper respiratory infections.

The drainage may be clear, white, yellow, green, orange or red.

If the ear begins to drain, please follow these instructions:

- Start using the eardrops and continue using them twice daily for five to seven days unless the patient experiences burning. This burning usually indicates that the infection is clearing. Discontinue drops if one drop burns.
- If the ear is red or swollen, or if you do not feel the eardrops are going down into your ear canal, please contact your physician's nurse.
- Do not instill drops in an ear that is not draining. Doing so may cause pain, dizziness or hearing loss.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 478-743-8953 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.