

POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR TYMPANOPLASTY AND MASTOID TYMPANOPLASTY

These are general guidelines for many of our procedures, so not all items may pertain to you.

If your procedure is done from behind the ear, you will leave the hospital with a large dressing wrapped around your head. The following day, you may remove this at home by simply removing the gauze wrap by your non-operated ear and unwrapping the dressing. Under all of this, will be some paper strips. These paper strips stay on for 1 week. At your 1st post-operative visit, I will remove these paper strips.

Your sutures will probably be under the skin and your body will absorb them. In some cases, we may use stitches that we will remove here in the office in approximately seven days. If you decide to change cotton ball in ear canal, apply ointment to cotton ball and place in ear. Do not be concerned if there is a lot of blood, drainage from the ear after surgery. Your ear can be swollen after surgery, this is normal.

WASHING YOUR HAIR: Use caution when you wash your hair to keep the ear and incision dry. Coat a cotton ball with Vaseline and place it in your ear to keep water from penetrating the packing. Keep the incision dry until the Steri-Strips have been removed.

There should be little pain following the surgery. We have given you a prescription for pain medication, ear drops and sometimes antibiotics. Your ear may be numb for approximately six months following surgery. Sometimes there is a slight taste disturbance or metallic taste postoperatively. This usually disappears in 3-4 months. Call our office immediately if you should note any fever, excessive pain, or pus-like discharge. After hours, a doctor from our office is always on call for emergencies. Please call 201-816-9800 and the answering service will contact the on-call physician. You will be seen in the office every week until your ear is totally healed. The doctor recommends yearly checkups with a hearing test thereafter.