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Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery

Post operative instruction for Myringoplasty

Diet

In the immediate post-operative period, the patient may experience some vertigo, nausea or vomiting. It is therefore preferable to stick to a liquid diet or a light bland meal. A regular diet may be resumed the day after surgery. It is not unusual to experience some earache on mastication and possibly, some difficulty in fully opening the mouth.

Wound Care

The operated ear is usually packed and full of blood. It will feel clogged and you may hear crackling sounds. If you have a cotton ball in the ear, change it when it gets soaked and replace it with a clean cotton ball. It is not necessary to use a band aid or adhesive tape to hold the cotton ball. Use a little antibiotic ointment to make the cotton ball stick.

- 1. Do not allow any water to enter the operated ear. Protect the ear when showering or washing the hair with a cotton ball coated with Vaseline. It is a good idea to have someone help you with washing the scalp to avoid water. When finished washing, remove the coated cotton, wipe the ear with a soft paper tissue and place a clean, dry cotton ball. A little antibiotic ointment may help the cotton ball stick and stay in place. A shower cap provides extra protection.
- 2. Thick, dark or bloody ear drainage is expected during the first week after surgery. You may clean the crusting from the outer part of the ear with peroxide and Q-tips.
- **3.** The abdominal incision will be covered with Dermabond (skin-glue). You may get this area wet in 24 hours. It can be normal to have some blood ooze around the incision over the first 24-48 hours. The Dermabond will usually peel off 7-10 days after surgery.
- 4. Do not blow your nose for at least two weeks from the day of surgery. Blowing can build excessive pressure in the operated ear and displace the reconstructed or grafted eardrum.
- 5. If you have to sneeze, please do it with your mouth wide open to avoid pressure build up in your ear.
- 6. When sleeping, try to sleep on the unoperated ear.

Medications

Usually, the only medications prescribed are ear drops. You can use acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Motrin) as needed for pain

Follow-up

Please call out office to arrange a follow up 2 weeks after surgery. We will not usually perform a hearing test until 4-6 weeks after surgery. This appointment should have been made by your doctor's **Surgery Coordinator** at the time of scheduling the surgery. If you are unsure if you have a post operative appointment scheduled, please reach out to your doctor's **Surgery Coordinator** to verify your post operative appointment.

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WHAT SHOULD I CALL THE DOCTOR FOR?

- Fever over 102 F that **DOES NOT** respond to Tylenol or Motrin. The fever may go up and down but if it does decrease with Tylenol or Motrin, it is OK to monitor.
- Sudden increase in swelling of the abdominal incision.

We are unable to refill your medications on weekends or after hours.

For prescription refills, please call during office hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

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Ear, Nose, and Throat Associates of Texas, P.A.

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