



SOUTHWEST OHIO

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## Tympanostomy Tube

### POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Your child's new tympanostomy tubes are designed to decrease the amount of infections that he or she gets. Nevertheless, your child may still get an ear infection if they have an upper respiratory infection or get water in the ear. This fluid may be clear, cloudy or bloody in nature.

**a.** If this happens, begin the antibiotic ear drops that were given postoperatively.

These should be administered as 3-4 drops twice a day for 4 days. If the fluid continues, your child should be evaluated by your child's ENT physician.

2. When bathing, showering or hair washing, you may insert a cotton ball with Vaseline applied over it. Alternatively, ear plugs made of putty can be molded to the ear. These can be found in local drug stores or can be custom made at our office. Please do not place anything in the ears except the antibiotic ear drops, unless directed by your physician. Please discuss specific instructions about swimming with your ENT physician.

3. If your child develops a temperature over 101 degrees without ear drainage, please contact the pediatrician.

4. Your child may notice changes in his or her hearing and this is normal. It is common for very young children to be fussy after surgery due to these changes. Hearing should begin to improve within 24 hours after surgery.

5. Ear drops at room temperature may still feel cool to a child's ear. It will be more comfortable if the bottle is warmed first by holding it in the palm of your hand.

6. Your child may resume normal activity as tolerated.

7. Please call our Nurse Line for any further questions or problems at (937) 496-0261.

This line is answered from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If this is an after hours emergency call (937) 496-2600.

*Head & Neck Surgery • Ear, Nose, Throat & Sinus Surgery • Pediatric ENT • Voice Analysis & Rehabilitation*

**Main Location**

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