

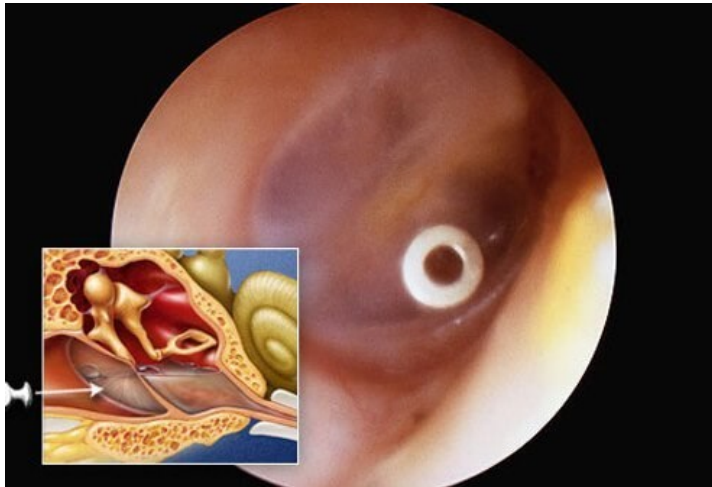
POST OPERATIVE CARE

EAR TUBES



Day of Surgery

- Nothing to eat or drink after Midnight
- Dress your child in comfortable loose fitting clothes
- Bring their favorite toy or special blanket
- The surgery coordinator will call you the morning before surgery to notify you of the time of surgery.
- If your child is sick or has a fever the day before surgery, call the office.



During Surgery

Your child may be given a medication to help him or her relax prior to entering the operating room.

In the operating room, the anesthesiology team will usually use a mixture of gas and an intravenous medication for sedation.

During the procedure, which typically takes 10 to 15 minutes, your child will be continuously monitored including pulse oximeter (oxygen saturation of blood) and cardiac rhythm (EKG).

Once the anesthetic takes effect, the doctor, using an operating microscope, makes a tiny incision in the eardrum through the outer ear canal. The tubes are shaped like bobbins in a sewing machine and are locked into the eardrum by placing one flange through the eardrum and one flange on the surface.

Usually, drops will be placed in the ear, and a cotton plug inserted in the ear canal.

The tubes are expected to stay in place between 6-18 months and will fall out on their own.

After Surgery

- *Expect some bloody drainage-this should resolve in 3 days or less and will get better with the use of ear drops*
- *If the ears start draining after you have stopped the ear drops, restart the ear drops and use for three days, if the ears are still draining, please call our office.*
- *Water precautions are not necessary after tube placement.*
- *Most patients can return to school or daycare the very next day.*
- *Use Tylenol and Ibuprofen for pain. They can be given together every 6 hours or alternated every three hours— Refer to the dosage on the bottle based on your child's weight and age.*

Contact our office for assistance
828-263-5684
Or After hours
1-800-893-6743