

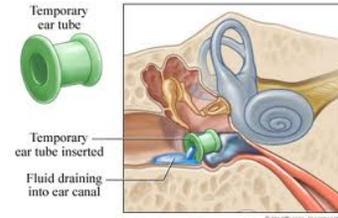


# EAR TUBES



## *WHAT ARE EAR TUBES?*

The actual name for ear tube surgery is Myringotomy (hole in ear) with tubes. This is a procedure where your surgeon makes an incision in the eardrum to allow fluid to drain out.



## *WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER SURGERY*

After surgery you will be in the post-operative care unit (PACU) for a few hours until your child is feeling better. Once the anesthesiologist feels you are ready to go home you will be discharged.

**NAUSEA/VOMITING:** It is normal for your child to feel nausea and sometimes even vomit after surgery. This will pass with time. Try to feed them bland food such as toast.

**EAR DRAINAGE:** This is normal after surgery. Use the drops as instructed below.

**PAIN:** There should be minimal pain. Call the doctor if your child is feeling excessive pain.

**FOLLOW UP:** The PACU will call to make you an appointment and give you the time and date. Otherwise call at any time (323) 268-6731. If it is after hours and you want to leave a message for the doctor you can do so with that number.

## *WHAT MEDICATIONS DO I NEED?*

After surgery your doctor will bring you some drops. If they do not, they will give you a prescription for drops that you can pick up at your local pharmacy.

**IMMEDIATELY AFTER SURGERY:** Use 4 drops in each ear twice daily for three days unless otherwise instructed by your doctor

**AFTER 1 WEEK:** If at any time for the next year your child has drainage from the ear, try to use the drops (4 drops in the draining ear twice daily for 10 days) and call to make an appointment.

**AFTER 1 YEAR:** Call to make an appointment. Your child should be seen by their Pediatrician or the specialist to see if the tubes are still in place

## *CAN THEY GET WATER IN THEIR EAR?*

After surgery your child will have tubes connecting the outside world to the middle ear. It is safe to swim in clean pools or take baths without earplugs. If you go to the beach or to a lake then earplugs should be worn at all times while swimming. Earplugs and a swimming cap over the ears is the safest way to prevent infection.