**Bone Anchored Hearing Aid**

**General Instructions:**

1. Resume home medications as previous prescribed unless indicated by surgeon.
2. Keep all follow up appointments.
3. Call 205-228-7970 during regular business hours or report to the nearest emergency department for fever >101.5, nausea & vomiting, severe dizziness that will not stop, shortness of breath or any other concerns.

**Precautions/Post-operative Care:**

1. The large plastic dressing may be removed 24 hours after surgery. The healing cap and yellow gauze should stay in place until your first follow up appointment, typically 7-10 days after surgery.
2. Keep incision completely dry until follow up appointment. You may shower 24 hours after surgery. Keep a cup over the implant site during shower/bath to stay dry.
3. Avoid bending or heavy lifting (more than 10 lbs or 1 gallon of milk) for 1-2 weeks after surgery.
4. Alternating Tylenol and Ibuprofen every 4-6 hours is typically adequate for pain control.

**Future Care:**

1. Once the healing cap and yellow gauze are removed at your first post-operative appointment, it is safe to take a shower and allow the implant to get wet. Wash with warm soapy water and pat dry, do not scrub.
2. You should clean around the implant with a soft toothbrush daily. If the area around the implant becomes red, swollen, tender or if you see drainage that is thick or foul smelling, call the clinic at the number above.

**Dizziness**

Minor dizziness may be present on head motion and is of no concern unless it increases or persists without stopping.

**Hearing**

It will take at least 6 weeks for the implant to heal into the bone. At that time, the implant will be “loaded” with the processor. The audiologist will perform adjustments and “fine-tuning” over the next few months to ensure the best hearing from your implant.