

Post-Op Instructions

- Some bloody drainage or fluid from the ears is normal for the first week after placing ear tubes. Use 5 drops of Floxin ear drops in each ear once daily for 1 week.
- Typically, there is no pain from ear tubes; however, some residual discomfort from the anesthesia can linger for two to three days.
- You or your child may resume a normal diet as tolerated. Start with juice or soft food and proceed slowly, as nausea can sometimes be caused by the anesthesia.
- You or your child may resume previous normal activity as tolerated without restriction. There are no water restrictions, except you should avoid diving under more than 4-5 feet of water or swimming in dirty water such as the water found in a lake or pond. Showers and baths are okay and do not require ear protection.
- Ear drainage may occur at any time after placing ear tubes and this drainage can sometimes be pus. This is usually the first indication of an ear infection. These infections can most times be treated simply with ear drops and do not require oral antibiotics. If drainage starts more than a week after surgery, apply 5 drops of Floxin antibiotic ear drops to the draining ear twice a day for one week, and contact Dr. Ashford if the drainage persists beyond three days.
- Follow-up with Dr. Ashford in one month after the ear tubes are placed for the first postoperative checkup. Following this, Dr. Ashford will need to follow up with you every 6 months to check the tubes or sooner if there are problems with ear drainage or other concerns about hearing or ear infections.

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