PATIENT INSTRUCTION SHEET FOR AFTER SURGERY

MYRINGOTOMY WITH TUBE PLACEMENT

A tube is placed to relieve pressure and fullness behind the eardrum due to recurrent ear infections that are no longer manageable with medication. A tube will be inserted into the eardrum to keep the middle ear aerated for a prolonged period of time. These ventilating tubes usually remain in place for 6 months to several years. Eventually they will move out of the eardrum and fall into the ear canal. Your doctor may also remove the tube during a routine office visit or it may simply fall out of the ear. This is about a 15 minute outpatient procedure; you will be released to go home later that day. You may resume normal activity the following day. The ear needs to remain dry while the tubes are in place. Until you see Dr. Herzog, the ears should be kept dry when showering, bathing, washing hair or swimming by utilizing a cotton ball smeared with Vaseline. You will need to call the office to schedule an appointment with Dr. Herzog 6 weeks after surgery, unless otherwise specified.

If you have any drainage after surgery, use the drops given to you at the time of surgery and notify the office for further instructions.

Call the office if you have a temperature over 100.3 or if you have excessive drainage from your ear or nose. Do not wait until your next office appointment to report any problems or questions. The office number is 314-453-0001 and the after-hours exchange is 314-364-5323.