

Wentworth Health Partners Head & Neck Specialty Group of NH

361 High Street Somersworth, NH 03878
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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
www.headandnecknh.com

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOME CARE AFTER VENTILATORY TUBE INSERTION

The eardrum(s) has/have been operated upon, opened, the fluid behind the eardrum has been removed, and a special, very small ventilating tube has been inserted through this opening in the eardrum(s). There should be no pain associated with the presence of a ventilatory tube.

After surgery, there may be a small amount of blood or Betadine in the ear canal. The eardrops used after surgery will help to rinse away this material. Please remove any cotton from the ear when you get home.

The most important thing to remember after surgery is that you want to PREVENT water from getting into the ear.

1. DO NOT swim or immerse the head in water, unless otherwise directed.
2. When bathing or showering, you can place a cotton ball with Vaseline into the outer part of the ear to prevent water exposure or ask for special ear molds. No special shampoo is needed, but we prefer baby shampoo as it is mild.
3. Call the office if there is ear pain, purulent ear drainage (pus) or dizziness.
NOTE: Some light bleeding and discharge is normal.
4. If no other procedure has been performed, the following activities are allowed:
 - Outdoor activity with a hat in the winter
 - Flying
 - Travel
 - Diet as tolerated

The ear(s) and tube(s) should be examined 7-10 days after surgery, then every few months thereafter. We will give you fitted earplugs before you are operated on to be used while bathing, showering, or swimming.