

Procedure Name: Placement of Ear Tubes (Myringotomy with Tube Placement)

Brief Description of the Procedure:

Tiny slit in eardrum to aspirate any middle ear fluid and allow a temporary ventilation portal into middle ear space. A tiny plastic or metal tube will be inserted into the slit to keep portal open. This usually provides relief for 6-12 months or longer.

Describe anesthesia type that typically is given:

Adults can sometimes be done in doctor's office or in surgery with local anesthesia and sedation. Small children usually need brief general anesthesia.

What patients that smoke can expect when having surgery:

After surgery your anesthesia specialist will check your breathing and lung sounds to determine if a breathing treatment is needed. Smoking increases airway irritation, which leads to wheezing and coughing. Further breathing treatments and medication are sometimes needed.

Average length of surgery time:

15 minutes

Average length in immediate recovery:

15 minutes

Average length for time of discharge:

30 minutes

When can you go back to work/school:

If just the ear tubes were inserted without any other ear, nose and throat surgery such as adenoids, you may return to work or school the next day. It is very important to keep water out of ears. You may use earplugs when bathing and swimming.

What can I lift after surgery:

No restrictions

What kind of discomfort can you expect:

Usually Tylenol or Advil will be enough pain medication.

Surgical Safety Checklist:

For optimal quality care and surgical safety, the following will be confirmed between patient, surgeon, and surgery team prior to anesthesia:

- Identity of the patient
- Surgical Site
- Procedure
- Sign Consent
- Surgeon to mark the surgical site, if applicable
- Allergies



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