



Instructions for Ventilation Tube Insertion and Removal

1. If the patient develops a severe cold or fever prior to the surgery, please contact the office immediately (910) 323-9222
2. On the day of the surgery, the patient should NOT have anything to EAT or DRINK after midnight the night before the procedure.

What to expect following the surgery

1. The patient may leave the surgical facility approximately one hour after the surgery.
2. There may be drainage from the ear for 2-3 days following the surgery.
3. The plastic tubes usually stay in place for 3-15 months after the surgery. Most tubes will not need to be surgically removed because they will usually fall out on their own.
4. The patient will need to be evaluated by their Physician every three to six months.

What to do

1. Swimming is not allowed for 2 weeks following surgery. After this period, swimming is allowed with the following exceptions:
 - No underwater swimming
 - No diving
 - No jumping or sliding into water
 - No ear plugs should be worn unless instructed by your Physician. If you are unsure please contact our office, our Audiologists can custom make ear plugs for patients so that the patient can swim.
2. The patient may return to school the day after surgery
3. Hair may be washed one week after tube insertion
4. The patient is allowed to eat unrestricted, please refrain from gum chewing for 2 weeks
5. Flying is permitted after surgery
6. It is important to avoid smoking around the patient, due to a correlation between smoking and recurrent ear infections
7. Please be sure you have a post-operative appointment scheduled 10 days after your surgery.