



POSTOPERATIVE CARE ADENOIDECTOMY

The adenoids are a tissue similar to tonsils that are in the back of the nose. By removing this tissue, certain problems with the nose, ear, and breathing can be improved.

What to expect after surgery:

- Pain in the throat, neck, and referred pain in the ears are common. This discomfort usually lasts for four to five days, but may last for up to 14 days. Ibuprofen (Motrin) is recommended for this discomfort. Do not use Aspirin products since these can increase the chance of bleeding after surgery. If your doctor prescribes narcotic pain medication (acetaminophen with hydrocodone), please be aware that most pain medications also contain acetaminophen (Tylenol). You should NOT give pain medication and acetaminophen to your child in the same 4-hour period. The neck pain can persist for up to 2 weeks, but should be controlled with ibuprofen.
- Blood tinged drainage from the nose is expected for about three days. Your child may blow their nose GENTLY the day after surgery if necessary. Any bright red bleeding from the nose lasting several minutes should be reported to your doctor immediately.
- Snoring, runny, or stuffy nose and bad breath can occur after surgery and last for about 2 weeks. This is normal and will resolve with the healing process. Normal saline nasal spray can be used. Occasionally, the child may have some changes in voice due to the removal of adenoid tissue. They sometimes sound more nasal. This usually will return to normal within four weeks.
- Fevers are common after surgery. Your child may run a fever for several days after surgery. If the fever remains over 102 and is not improving 30-45 minutes after ibuprofen (Motrin), hydrocodone with acetaminophen (Hycet - pain medication), or acetaminophen (Tylenol) is given please call the office. It is important that children drink plenty of fluids after surgery. This will not only make them feel better, but will reduce the chance of fevers.

Common questions after surgery:

- **What type of activity can my child do after surgery?** Quiet activities for 7 days. School can be started in 1-3 days if patient feels well. No sustained physical activity (sports, running, heavy lifting, swimming, P.E. class, bounce houses, etc...) for 7 days after surgery.
- **What symptoms should I be concerned with after surgery?** You should notify the doctor if there is bright red bleeding from the nose or throat that lasts several minutes, uncontrolled vomiting, or neck pain and stiffness that is not relieved by pain medication.

- **Should I be concerned that fluids come out of my child's nose when he drinks?** No, this can sometimes occur after surgery but will resolve within a few weeks.
- **What type of diet should my child eat after surgery?** We encourage plenty of fluids after surgery. There are no restrictions on the diet.
- **When should I return to see the doctor?** Your child should return to see the doctor 4-6 weeks after surgery.
- **Will the adenoids grow back?** Adenoid tissue can occasionally return, but usually does not require another surgical procedure.
- **How can I reach the doctor after hours?** There is a doctor on call 24 hours. If you need to reach us, please call the office number:

972-745-8400 or 817-337-3339