



Postoperative Care Paper Patch Myringoplasty

What can I expect after a paper patch?

- Your child may have some bloody drainage from the ear. It is very important that you do not use ear drops after surgery.
- Your child may experience some decreased hearing following the surgery due to blood in the ear canal. This usually improves gradually over the next 1-2 months.
- 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) 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.
- Your child may experience ringing in the operated ear for 6-8 weeks after surgery.

What should I do if my child has pain?

- Complaints of pain are not expected after this surgery. If your child complains of a headache or earache after surgery it is okay to give them ibuprofen (Motrin) or acetaminophen (Tylenol) as recommended on the bottle.

Will my child have a dressing?

- No.

When can my child begin normal activity?

- Your child may resume normal activities around the home as soon as they feel up to it
- Quiet activities for 7 days. School can be started the next day. No sustained physical activity (sports, running, heavy lifting, swimming, P.E. class, bounce houses, trampolines, etc...) for 7 days after surgery.
- The ear canal and contents of the ear canal should be kept dry for 8 weeks after surgery. No swimming. An ear plug should **NOT** be used; this will push pressure down the ear canal and disrupt the surgical repair of the ear drum. To keep water out of the ear during bathes and showers place a shower cap over your child's head and ear. Wash their hair over the sink while holding a sandwich bag or plastic cup over the ear.
- No flying or trips that involve a significant change of elevation that would make you ear pop for 8 weeks after surgery.
- Popping the ears: your child should not attempt to intentionally pop their ears for 8 weeks after surgery.
- Nose blowing: nose blowing after eardrum reconstruction is discouraged for 8 weeks. If your child must blow their nose an open handed technique should be used, no touching the nose or applying pressure to either nostril while blowing.

When should I call the doctor?

- If your child has pus-like or foul smelling ear drainage.

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