

**WHAT SHOULD BE EXPECTED AFTER SURGERY?**

There may be blood or mucous which drains from the ears for a few days after the procedure. There will usually be antibiotic ear drops to place in the ears for one week, or until the drainage stops, whichever is longer.

For the first three weeks after the tubes have been placed, when bathing or showering, put a cotton ball coated with Vaseline ointment in the ear to prevent water from getting in the tubes.

You will need to follow up with the doctor's office within three weeks after the surgery and have a repeat hearing test. After that, you will need to follow up every four to six months to have the tubes checked.

**RISKS:**

Rarely a persistent hole in the ear drum can remain when the tube comes out. This is called a perforation. This happens in about 1% of patients. This may need to be repaired with another procedure. Persistent or recurrent ear drainage from the tubes can occur after placement. In general, this can be successfully treated with ear drops.

**HOW WILL THIS AFFECT MY CHILD'S HEARING?**

Fluid or mucous in the middle ear space can reduce the transmission of sound to the hearing nerve, temporarily, reducing hearing. Patients with hearing loss caused by fluid in the middle ear, will have improved hearing immediately after the tubes are placed.

**PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID DRAINAGE FROM THE TUBES:**

- Prevent exposure to cigarette smoke
- Keep the ears clean and dry
- Treat for airborne allergies if indicated

**CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY  
PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS: 830.629.5830**