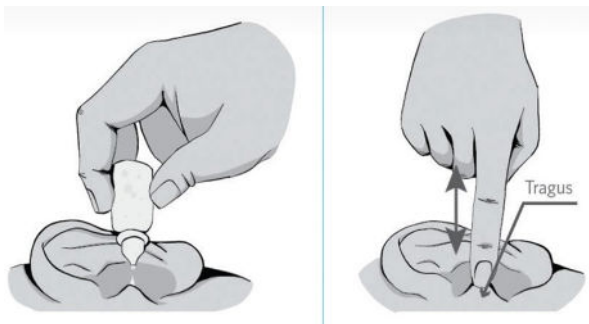




Post-operative Instructions Following Myringotomy with Tympanostomy Tube Placement

Ear Drops

- Ear drops will be prescribed at the preop visit and will begin the evening after the patient has surgery. Use the drops as instructed on the day of surgery.
- To place the drops in the ear:
 1. Have your child lay down on their side. Put ear drops into opening of ear canal.
 2. Push down on tragus 4-5 times (small piece of cartilage in front of ear canal opening). This helps pump the drops into the canal.



Water Precautions

- Earplugs are usually not needed for swimming and bathing while the tubes are in place.
- Recommend the use of earplugs when the ears are exposed to unclean water (lakes, rivers, ocean, etc.)
- Plugs may be silicone wax, custom-made, or cotton balls coated with Vaseline.

Ear Drainage

- Drainage of fluid from an ear which has a tube in it is not normal but is common, especially in children during upper respiratory infections.
- The drainage may be clear, white, yellow, green, orange, or red.
- If the ear begins to drain, please follow these instructions:
 - Start using the ear drops and continue using them twice daily for 7 days unless the patient experiences burning. This usually indicates that the infection is clearing. Decrease the number of drops until they no longer burn. Discontinue drops if one drop burns.
 - If the ear is red, swollen, or you do not feel the ear drops are going down into the ear canal, please contact our office for further instructions.
- Do not instill drops in an ear that is not draining. This may cause pain, dizziness, or hearing loss.

Please contact our office at [478-743-8953](tel:478-743-8953) if you have any questions or concerns.

Please attempt to contact our office first so that we may advise you appropriately. If for any reason, you are unable to reach our office or your surgeon in an emergency, please go to the nearest emergency room.