

# Discharge Instructions for Tympanoplasty (Child)



Your child had a procedure called tympanoplasty to repair a damaged eardrum. Here's what you need to know about home care following this procedure.

## What to expect

- A small amount of drainage from the ear
- Numbness of the outer part of the ear (this will return to normal)
- Pain in the jaw (this will return to normal)
- Change in or loss of taste (this will return to normal)

## Ear care

- Don't let your child lie flat for the first 24 hours.
- Discourage your child from blowing their nose. Don't allow your child to hold their nose closed.
- Show your child how to sneeze with the mouth open.
- Allow your child to shower as needed, unless stated otherwise by the healthcare provider. A tub bath is allowed as long as your child doesn't put their head in the water.
- Keep the ear dry. You can place a cotton ball dabbed with a small amount of petroleum jelly in the outer ear to keep water out during a bath or shower.
- Give your child medicine exactly as directed.

## Activity

- Make sure your child avoids activities that involve heavy lifting and straining.
- Get your child's healthcare provider's permission before letting your child fly in a plane or before swimming.

## Follow-up care

- Make follow-up appointments as directed by your child's healthcare provider.
- Ask your child's healthcare provider when your child may return to school.

## When to call your child's healthcare provider

Call your child's surgeon right away if your child has any of the following:

- Increased redness or swelling around the ear
- Dizziness

- Drainage from the ear with an odor or increased drainage
- Ongoing headache
- Seeing double or blurry vision
- Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher, or as directed by your child's surgeon
- Weak muscles of the face
- Unusual eye movements
- Ringing in the ears

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