

VCU Medical Center  
Department of Otolaryngology  
Discharge Instructions  
*After Myringotomy Tubes & Adenoidectomy Surgery*  
**Dr. Kelley Dodson**

A.D. Williams  
1201 East Marshall Street  
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Suite 220  
Richmond, VA 23235  
(804) 323-0830

Emergency after business hours (5 pm – 8 am and weekends): (804) 828-0951.  
Ask to speak to the on call ENT doctor.

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You may feed your child as soon as the anesthesia wears off. If an adenoidectomy was performed, your child may be drowsy for a few hours. If your child needs any pain medication, Tylenol will help. Saline nose drops used 3-4 times a day will help to remove dried crusts in the nose.

**Antibiotic eardrops** may be prescribed for post-operative use depending upon the amount and type of ear fluid that your child had at time of surgery. **Floxin or Ciprodex** drops are the only drops to use in the ear after tubes are inserted. Follow the dosing schedule on the bottle post-operatively. Shake the bottle before using. Be sure to pump the medicine into the ear canal by pressing on the first part of the ear just in front of the canal. Do not refrigerate the drops.

If **drainage** occurs immediately after surgery, it may be yellow or bloody. If it continues for a week, please call us for more information. Clean the drainage from the outside part of the ear with a damp cloth. Please do not use Q-tips in the canal part of the ear.

Drainage from one or both ears may follow a cold. If your child has signs of an ear infection (fever, ear pain and drainage), then the prescription eardrops may be started immediately. For either Floxin or Ciprodex drops that you may have on hand, you may put four (4) drops in the ear with the drainage twice a day for four (4) days. If you do not have any eardrops on hand, you may call us or see your child's pediatrician. Please call us if the infection is not clearing up.

Children do not need **earplugs** when they take a bath or shower, go swimming or wading in the pool. If a child dives in water deeper than his height, then earplugs should be provided. Foam earplugs from the drug store are usually satisfactory. Our audiologists can fit your child with special earplugs if desired.

Ear tubes usually allow hearing to return to normal. The child may be temporarily bothered by loud sounds. Your child's speech should also improve because the sounds he or she hears are repeated.

**Follow-up** with Dr. Dodson in 1-2 weeks for evaluation. Your child will be seen every 4-6 months until both tubes fall out in about 12-18 months. Tubes that do not come out on their own will be removed after that time by the surgeon. The pediatrician may do the four month evaluation.

**Call the ENT office if you have any questions.**

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Patient/Representative Signature

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MD/Nurse Signature

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Date