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POST OP INSTRUCTIONS FOR EAR TUBES

PROCEDURE CODE: 69436

- Inserting ear tubes (also known as Tympanostomy Tube Placement) is either done in one or both ears.
- The procedure is usually done in the operating room under some sedation. In kids an IV is usually unnecessary because the anesthesia is done with a breathing mask.
- The procedure usually takes about 15 minutes and there is usually mild discomfort afterwards but most kids are normal later that day.
- If there is infection at the time of the procedure or bleeding (which is usually just a drop or two), you may be given a prescription for ear drops for a few days.
- Patients can resume normal activity the following day after the procedure.
- The only precaution after tubes is to try to keep **water** out of the ear.
 - A little water getting in during showering is okay, just try not to let the canal fill up with water because it can cause infection.
 - You should wear an ear plug if you are going under water (swimming).
- Don't use any ear wax removal products if you have tubes (it will burn).
- If there is drainage or bleeding out of the ears either after surgery or even months later, you should call to get a script for ear drops and a follow up appointment.
- The tubes usually stay in for 9-12 months but can come out earlier or later than that.
- A routine follow up appointment is not usually scheduled. Instead patients should follow up if a problem arises (drainage, decreased hearing, etc.).
- If the tubes come out and the infections or hearing loss comes back, then tubes may need to be re-inserted.

Please call the office with any questions: 810-244-8400. Good Luck!