Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

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Post-Tonsillectomy Diet

Within the post-operative period following a tonsillectomy (day1-14), there is a risk of hemorrhage (bleeding) from the site where the tonsils were removed. The most important requirement for recovery is for the patient to drink plenty of fluids yet it is also crucial to maintain a diet of cool (room temperature or colder), soft foods for the entire two weeks following surgery. Although it may be tempting to resume a regular diet prior to the 14 day mark, Dr. Jungkeit recommends strict adherence to this diet. Some weight loss may occur post-operatively which is usually regained after a normal diet is resumed.

Liquids:	Soft Foods:
Water	Cream soups
Apple juice	Pureed soups
Non-citrus juices without red dye	Yogurt
Iced herbal tea	Applesauce
Gatorade	Over-cooked noodles
Pedialyte	Over-cooked macaroni and cheese
Vitamin water without red dye	Over-cooked oatmeal
Popsicles without red dye	Scrambled eggs
Milk	Refried beans
Chocolate milk	Mashed potatoes
Soymilk	Cream of wheat
Smoothies	Jell-O without red dye
Broth	Pudding
Ensure	Ice cream/sorbet
Pediasure	Pureed cooked vegetables
	Pureed fruit

Remember: Liquids and foods must be room temperature or colder

Avoid citrus (orange, lemon, lime, grapefruit) spicy or acidic foods (hot sauce, tomato products, mustard, vinegar) and carbonated drinks. **Do not eat foods that are rough or crunchy** (cold cereal, popcorn, chips, nuts, pretzels, bread, meats, etc).