



Post-Operative Instructions PE Tubes

- 1. Water Precautions:** Past recommendations have been to use earplugs for swimming and bath use. Recent studies have shown that earplugs do not significantly decrease ear infections when the water exposure is tap water or chlorinated pool water. Ocean, river, lake or pond water exposure should be avoided. If exposure may occur, custom swim plugs are recommended and may be made through Dr. Jungkeit's office. A 10-day advance notice for fitting is required. Custom swim plugs cost \$75.00 per pair.
- 2. Ear Drops:** Ear drops will be prescribed or provided (typically Floxin® or Ciprodex®) to decrease the risk of post-operative infection. Instructions for Ciprodex® are 2 drops in each ear, 2 times per day for 7 days; instructions for Floxin drops are 2 times per day for 2 days.
- 3. Pain/Bleeding/Hearing:** Pain and/or bleeding are unusual but may occur within the first few days post-operatively if the ear canal was traumatized during the insertion of tubes. Hearing may seem somewhat muffled for approximately 2-4 weeks after tube insertion as the eardrum heals around the tube.
- 4. Drainage:** Drainage of fluid or pus may occur anytime following the insertion of PE tubes and often indicates infection. Please call for further instructions or an appointment for evaluation if this occurs.
- 5. F.Y.I.:** The term "PE" tubes originally indicated Polyethylene tube; the tubes are now made from silastic, so the "PE" now stands for "pneumatic equalization" tubes.

Revised 7/11