



1920 E 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Joplin MO 64804  
Dr. Renee Walker D.O. 417-781-4613

## **Myringotomy / Tympanostomy (Ear tubes)**

**Ear drops** – a prescription for ear drops has been sent to your pharmacy. Please have the prescription filled before the day of the surgery and bring the bottle – UNOPENED with you to the surgery center. Dr Walker will use the ear drops and give them back to you for use at home.

### **What to expect after surgery**

1. Fussiness from the general anesthetic is normal.
2. A few drops of blood out of the ears in the first few days is normal.
3. If infection was present at the time of surgery, the ears may drain for several days.
4. There may be mild ear discomfort.

### **Post-op care**

1. Recovery time for ear tubes is usually shortly following recovery from anesthesia.
2. Use the ear drops given to you as directed. In most cases, Dr Walker prefers 3 drops in the treated ear 3 times per day for the next 5 days. Warm the ear drops between the hands for 1-2 minutes prior to application, to bring the drops to room temperature to avoid dizziness. **DO NOT store the drop in the refrigerator.**
3. Tylenol or ibuprofen may be used as needed for pain.
4. Dr Walker will see the patient back approximately 2 weeks after surgery, and then every six months until the tubes are out and the eardrum is healed.

### **Water precautions**

1. Bathing and showering do not require any special precautions.
2. Patients with ear tubes may swim in chlorinated water no deeper than 15 feet without the use of ear plugs.
3. Dr Walker recommends that the patient use antibiotic ear drops at bedtime on the day the patient has gone swimming.
4. Ear plugs should be worn if the patient swims in a lake, pond, river or ocean.
5. Antibiotic drops should be used at bed time if the patient swims in a lake, pond, river or ocean.

### **Please call the office if the following occurs**

1. Fever of greater than 101 degrees.
2. Large amounts of pus is draining from the ear after 5 days of ear drop treatments.

**If there are continued problems after three weeks, contact our office to make a follow-up appointment.**