



Northern Illinois ENT Specialists, LTD
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EAR SURGERY

General information:

Many types of ear surgery exist, but pre and post ear surgery care is similar for all.

Surgeries for the ear include:

- ◆ Tympanoplasty- closing of a hole of the ear drum
- ◆ Mastoidectomy- removing infected/diseased bone of the ear
- ◆ Middle ear surgery/Stapedectomy- altering/moving ear bones

Procedure considerations:

- ◆ Ear surgery typically last between one and two hours.
- ◆ Ear surgery is generally “same day surgery” although on occasion a patient will spend the night.
- ◆ Ear surgery does require a general anesthetic and you will be asleep for the operation.
- ◆ Almost always ear surgery is proceeded by an audiogram.

Risks of surgery:

- ◆ All surgeries have risks and only the most important are listed here.
- ◆ There is a risk of bleeding with any surgery. Typically with this surgery, there is minimal bleeding.
- ◆ There may be some bloody drainage from the ear canal. A sign of swelling behind the ear should be addressed immediately.
- ◆ There is a risk of infection anytime any surgery is done. Signs of infection include fever, night sweats, unusual pain, or discharge of thick pus from the or around the ear. Please report concerns of infection to the office.
- ◆ The facial nerve is the nerve that controls facial function. This nerve travels through the ear and there is potential for damage to this nerve resulting in dysfunction of the face.
- ◆ With any ear surgery there is the chance that hearing will worsen after surgery. This generally occurs in 1-3% of patients undergoing middle ear surgery.
- ◆ Dizziness or vertigo may be present after surgery but does not generally persist for more than 24-48 hours.

Post surgery instructions:

- ◆ Take pain medication as directed/needed
- ◆ Avoid aspirin containing products or blood thinners for two weeks post surgery.
- ◆ Avoid heavy lifting or exercise for two weeks post surgery.
- ◆ No flying for 3 weeks post surgery.
- ◆ Take any antibiotic or other medication if provided.
- ◆ No nose blowing or use of straws for 3 weeks post surgery.
- ◆ A follow up appointment within 1 week of surgery should be scheduled.

As always call with any questions or concerns: 815-758-8106