

## Omaha Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic, P.C.

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## **BILATERAL MYRINGOTOMY TUBES (BMT)**

- 1. Children may be irritable after waking up from anesthesia. This may last up to several hours postoperatively. Once passed, there is generally no pain or discomfort from the procedure.
- 2. Follow the directions of the surgeon regarding ear drops and /or antibiotics. These are not prescribed in all cases.
- 3. Drainage, ranging from clear to bloody, is expected after surgery and is normal. If the drainage persists for more than one week, please call the office.
- 4. Ear infections can still occur after tube placement. However, this is almost always indicated by ear drainage rather than pain and/or fever. If you are unsure if your child has an ear infection, please contact our office.
- 5. Recent studies have shown that ear plugs are not necessary for routine bathing or surface swimming. For older children that often swim underwater, custom ear molds are recommended and can be obtained through our audiology department.
- 6. Flying in an airplane is usually not a problem since an open tube does not allow unequal pressure to develop.
- 7. A follow up appointment needs to be scheduled two weeks postoperatively. You can call our office during regular business hours to schedule this appointment. Ear tubes should be checked routinely every 6 months until they extrude. We recommend re-evaluation by our office for recurring ear infections, drainage, or any questions of hearing loss or speech / language development.
- 8. Please call during normal office hours for any routine questions or medication refills. For urgent problems after hours, please call our office number and you will be put in touch with the physician on call.