Caring for your Child after
Ear Tube Removal and Patch Placement

What to do

• Your child can take part in normal activity, as he feels able. If your child is in daycare, he may return to it the day after the procedure.

• **Diet.** Your child may feel sick to his stomach from the anesthesia. Start your child on clear liquids and advance to solid food as his stomach can handle it. If your child has nausea or vomiting, start over with clear liquids.

• Give Children’s Tylenol® (acetaminophen) for pain relief or fever. Follow the directions on the package.

• Use dry ear protection including ear putty to keep water out of the ear(s) until your follow up appointment with the doctor.

• No nose blowing for 1 month. If your child’s nose is runny just have him wipe it with a tissue instead of blowing.

• No airplane travel until checked by your ENT doctor at followup appointment.

• Your child should try to sneeze and cough with his mouth open for 1 month. Doing this will reduce the amount of pressure placed on the healing eardrum.

• Ear drops may be prescribed. Your doctor will let you know the dose.

Follow-up

Your child will be scheduled for a follow-up visit at the ENT Clinic about 1-3 months after the tube removal.

When to call your child’s doctor or clinic nurse

Call one of the phone numbers below if your child has:

• Nausea or vomiting that won’t go away.

• Ear drainage or discomfort.

• If you have any suspicion that your child is not recovering as well as he should.

• A fever over 102° regardless of the method used to take temperature

Phone Numbers

Pediatric Otolaryngology Clinic: (608) 265-7760, weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

After clinic hours and weekends: The above number will give you the paging operator. Ask for the ENT doctor on call. Leave your name, area code, and phone number. The doctor will call you back shortly.

If you are calling from outside of Madison, call toll free at 1-800-323-8942