

Draining Ears

1. Means tubes are working.
2. Patient will usually have drainage from ears if teething, has runny nose, or sinus congestion. They may also have drainage if water gets into the ear.
3. It is OK to call in Ciprodex or Floxin for draining ears. Ciprodex is usually the drug of choice, however, Floxin is OK if patient can not afford Ciprodex.
4. If the patient has bleeding from the ears after tubes: (not uncommon right after tubes), continue with Ciprodex. If this happens several months or years after tubes, then tubes could be working their way out (this is still not uncommon), use Ciprodex and make a regular 6 month follow up appointment if one is not already made.
5. If patient has thick drainage with foul odor and has been treated with drops and/or antibiotics, check with physician about next course of treatment. Most likely the patient will need appointment for possible ear suction.
6. If at any time a parent is upset about ear drainage (especially bleeding) and does not seem comfortable with the over the phone treatment, check with physician about bringing the patient in for an appointment.
 - Dr. Osborne uses ear plugs with tubes for water precautions and swimming
 - Dr. Lee and Dr. Harrison only recommend ear plugs for swimming in “dirty water” such as lakes, reservoirs, and oceans unless otherwise noted.