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Otolaryngology
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Recommended Care Following Insertion of PE Tubes

1. The pressure equalization tubes (PE Tubes) do not cause pain.
2. For a day or two following the PE tube insertion there may be a small amount of drainage, which may be clear mucus or bloody. Unless this has the appearance of pus, it is not cause for concern.
3. While the PE tubes are in place, it is necessary to keep water out of the ears. This can be done by rolling a piece of cotton in Vaseline and inserting it into the ear canal, or by using ear molds, which may be obtained through our office. NO swimming unless these ear molds are being used.
4. A small amount of mucus drainage from the ear canal often accompanies a cold. This can be treated by decongestants, and clearing the outside opening of the ear canal with a tissue. However, should this drainage have the character of pus, the office should be contacted to obtain further information.
5. The tubes usually remain in the eardrums for 6 to 24 months and then are naturally extruded. The eardrum heals completely and without pain. When the tubes are extruded, they may lie in the ear canal and cause no problems, or may fall out by themselves.
6. The PE tubes should be checked approximately two to four weeks following their insertion and every four to six months after that time. You should have the ears checked in this office.