

## **Ventilation Tube Insertion Postoperative Instructions**

1. Upon leaving the surgical facility, the patient may resume normal diet and activity.
2. The patient may return to school or work the next day.
3. You may be given antibiotic ear drops to use for 3-7 days after the procedure. They occasionally cause some burning and may cause some old blood to drain; this is expected.
4. Avoid getting water in ears. No underwater swimming without earplugs. When bathing or showering, ear plugs are not always necessary. Vaseline-coated cotton or an ear plug is needed if bothered by water in the ears.
5. Fever or foul-smelling drainage may represent infection. Call for an appointment if this occurs.
6. Tubes usually stay in place for several months to a year, sometime longer. After your initial follow-up visit, the ears should be examined at least every 6 months which the tubes are in place. It is important to keep your follow-up appointments.

\*\* For any questions or concerns, call the office (814-944-5357) Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Through the same number, our answering service will page the ENT physician on-call during nights and weekends.