Post-Operative Care of Tympanoplasty and/or Mastoidectomy

Your child had this type of surgery today:

________________________________________________________________________

Your child’s follow-up appointment is on ____/____/____ at _________________ in the _________________ clinic.

Things to Remember:

- Plan to keep your child inside with quiet activities for the first few days after surgery. Do not let your child do any vigorous activity or sports for 4 weeks. No swimming until your child’s doctor says he can.
- Change the cotton in your child’s ear at least 1 time every day and as needed. It is normal to have bloody drainage on the cotton for several days after surgery.
- Avoid getting the incision or ear wet. You may shampoo your child’s hair in the sink. Keep a dry towel over the ear. Turn your child’s head so the water drains away from the ear. A cotton ball covered with Vaseline® also can be used in the ear during shampooing or bathing to keep water out of the ear. Check with your child’s doctor regarding ear plugs.
- Do not allow your child to blow his nose after surgery until he has had his follow-up visit with the doctor. Just wipe the nose. If your child needs to sneeze or cough, remind him to cough or sneeze with his mouth open.
- While the ear is healing, your child may hear bubbling, crackling, popping, or ringing in his ears. Your child also may complain of shooting pain in or around the ears for a few days.
- Your child may have pain or discomfort after surgery. You may give your child __________________________ as instructed by your doctor.

Ear Drops:

[ ] No eardrops are ordered for your child.

[ ] ____________________________ every ________ hours for ________ days.

Start these drops on _____/_____/_____.

Call your child’s doctor, the Children’s Mercy ENT Clinic at (816) 234-3040, or the Children’s Mercy Hospital Information Line at (816) 234-3188 if:

- There is any swelling behind your child’s ear
- There is any redness behind your child’s ear
- Your child has a fever greater than 102°F (38.3°C) and does not go down with acetaminophen or acetaminophen with codeine.
- You have any questions or concerns