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FACIAL PLASTIC & COSMETIC SURGERY  
ALLERGY TESTING & TREATMENT  
HEARING AID SALES & SERVICE

Post-Operative Instructions  
**TYMPANOSTOMY VENTILATION TUBE PLACEMENT (ear tubes)**

A small incision is made in one or both ear drums after cleaning the ear canal. A tube, usually plastic or metal, is placed into this incision. The ear tubes maintain normal middle ear pressure by allowing the air into the space on the other side of the ear drum, from the outside. This reduces the risk of fluid building up in that space. If an ear infection does occur, the resultant pus flows out through the tube, limiting the pain of the infection. If an ear infection does occur with ear tubes in place, your doctor can use topical treatments (ear drops) rather than oral antibiotics. Studies have shown that topical treatments are more effective than oral antibiotics in treating discharging ears.

INDICATIONS:

- Persistent middle ear fluid
- Recurrent middle ear infections
- To relieve pressure in the ears

POST-OPERATIVE Expectations:

- There is not usually pain following surgery. The patient can return to work/school the following day. Tylenol may be taken if needed for ear discomfort.
- A slight drainage may be noticed for the first few days, if it occurs more than a few days contact your doctor.
- If your doctor prescribes antibiotic eardrops, it is recommended to warm the bottle 3-5 minutes before placing in the ear(s) using your hands or pocket.
- Ear plugs are not required for patients with ear tubes.
- With ear tube placement, any hearing loss caused by the pre-existing fluid in the space behind the ear drum will be reversed.

**A post-operative appointment has been scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_**

LOCATION:

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Southwest</b><br>1555 44 <sup>th</sup> St. SW Wyoming MI 49509 | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Northeast</b><br>1425 Michigan NE Grand Rapids MI 49503 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mecosta</b><br>705 Oak St. Big Rapids MI 49307                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hastings</b><br>915 W. Green St. Hastings MI 49058      |
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