



ALASKA FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY & ENT
CHRISTINA MAGILL MD

3719 E. Meridian Loop, Suite E, Wasilla, AK 99654 P: 907-671-6017 F: 907-631-0766

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EARLOBE REPAIR

- You will leave the office with earlobe sutures. The stitches (sutures) may cause some discomfort. The sutures will be removed 10 days after the procedure.
- Minor discomfort and swelling is normal at this time. Normally, ear lobe repairs do not cause severe pain. If you develop or have constant pain, and it does not seem to go away or it intensifies over time, and/or significant swelling with bruising occurs, **please call our office immediately.**
- If any bandages (steri-strips) were placed, leave these on. They should fall off by themselves.
- The wound may ooze for the first 24 to 48 hours after surgery. The oozing fluid may have a blood tinge to it; this is normal. You may also have some dry blood seen through the bandages covering the earlobes.
- Keep the ear lobes as clean as possible. If the bandages come off, you may gently clean the wounds daily for the first 4 days with a solution of 1:1 ratio of water to hydrogen peroxide and cotton applicators (Q-Tips) to remove dry blood making sure not to disrupt the wound. You may apply a thin layer of any double antibiotic ointment to the area. Use Bacitracin, Polysporin or any 'over the counter' double antibiotic ointment. **Do not** use Neosporin or any other triple antibiotic ointment as this may cause a rash.
- You may shower after 2 days. It is perfectly fine to get the ears wet during showering or washing. Do not scrub the incision site. Make sure to pat dry the area with gauze or towel. Avoid saunas and swimming until the sutures are removed.
- Avoid extreme physical activity, straining, exercise, or exertion for at least 3 days.
- Avoid excessive exposure to sun (including sun-tanning parlors) in the first 3 weeks. If you are planning on being out in the sun, you should always protect the earlobes with a strong sun screen (e.g. SPF 30 or greater)
- Avoid re-piercing the ear for 6 weeks as this may lead to a recurrence of the lobe tear.

If you have questions or concerns following your surgery please call our office at **907-671-6017** (after hours, ask for ENT doctor on call) or call **911** for emergency.