COCHLEAR IMPLANT

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Dressing:**
   a. A special dressing will be put over your incision site and ear.
   b. Remove the dressing after 24 hours. If the dressing falls off before 24 hours, it is ok to leave it off.
2. **Showering and water precautions:**
   a. No water over the incision of the ear for the first 3 days.
   b. You may shower 3 days after the surgery and get the stitches wet.
3. **Medication:**
   a. Take antibiotic if prescribed.
   b. Take Tylenol/Motrin for pain. If pain is not adequately controlled, then take the prescription for pain medication as needed.
   c. Purchase a **new** bottle of Vaseline or Aquaphor ointment sold at your local Walgreens, CVS, or any other convenience store. Do not use the supply of Vaseline you have at home, since sometimes your home supply may not be clean. Put Vaseline or Aquaphor ointment on the incision 2-3 times daily and after showering.
4. **Activity restrictions for 2 weeks after surgery:**
   a. No heavy lifting, bending or strenuous activity. No exercise workouts.
   b. Do not blow nose. When sneezing, keep mouth open.
   c. No lifting more than 20 lbs. No airplane flights.
5. **Driving:**
   a. No driving for 2 days after surgery. After that, you may drive provided you are not dizzy and not taking prescription pain medicine.
6. ***The following sensations are normal after surgery. You may experience some or all of them:***
   a. Heartbeat, thumping or popping sound in the operated ear.
   b. Some bleeding from the incision and from the ear canal.
   c. Mild imbalance and dizziness for several days
   d. Change in taste sensation on the same side as operated ear.
   e. Discomfort around the jaw, especially when chewing.
   f. Ringing in the ear.

- ***Call your doctor at 770-225-1874 if the following occur:***
   o Severe spinning, dizziness occurs.
   o Excessive bleeding from the incision.
   o Any adverse reaction to prescription medication.
   o Fever more than 100.5 degrees.

- **If you need to call after hours or on the weekend, please call the office at 770-225-1874.**