

## Precautions for patients with unilateral hearing

If you have only one hearing ear, please read the following recommendations carefully to minimize risk of hearing in the good ear.

- 1. We recommend against scuba diving because of the associated risk of ear injury to your good ear. These include:
  - Rupture of the tympanic membrane, which has been reported in about 6% of experienced scuba divers.
  - Permanent hearing loss and balance problems, which has been reported in 2% of experienced scuba divers.
- 2. We recommend noise protection when indicated. Acoustic trauma can result from exposure to loud music or from power tools/yard equipment. You should consider wearing earplugs or earmuffs designed for noise protection when around loud sounds.
- 3. If you experience any symptoms in your good ear, you should seek immediate ENT evaluation within 24 hours of symptom onset.