

Postoperative Instructions

Bone Anchored Hearing Implants with Magnetic Coupling

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This instruction sheet is designed to help you care for your ear(s) following surgery, and to answer many of the commonly asked questions. *Please read the entire sheet carefully.*

Leaving the Hospital

Typically, this is an outpatient procedure. Most people leave the hospital with a prescription for antibiotics, pain medication, and anti-nausea medication. The pain medication and anti-nausea medication are "as needed" medications and do NOT have to be taken if there isn't much pain or nausea.

Home Care-The First Few Days

- You may return to work or school the day after surgery.
- Keep the cup dressing on your ear for 24 to 48 hours; then remove the cup dressing. Keep the incision dry for 48-72 hours. Then, you can shower normally and use soap/water to gently clean the incision. Once clean, please apply over the counter antibiotic ointment of some kind to the incision line for 5-7 days. Do not use antibiotic ointment longer than that unless there is an infection.
- It is not uncommon to feel slightly dizzy or lightheaded for up to a week after surgery. Bone anchored hearing implant surgery is not an inner ear operation; the dizziness may be due to medications given during anesthesia.
- You may fly immediately after surgery. No precautions required.

Home Care-After the First Few Days:

Drainage should begin to decrease and pain should also subside. Continue clean the incision site daily during showers. Do not use antibiotic ointment anymore after one week.

Eyeglasses/ Sunglasses Post-Operative Care Instructions:

If you wear prescribed eyeglasses or sunglasses, please be aware that this can cause irritation to the incision site and may cause delayed healing. Please review the following instructions and take the necessary precautions needed to ensure the best possible outcome.

- If you wear eyeglasses/ sunglasses, the stem on the operated side should be removed for about 6 weeks after surgery.
- After the 6 weeks, you may also consider going to an eyeglass shop to have the stem tip widened out to prevent ongoing irritation or until it is fully healed.
- If you are wearing any hats or head gear, please be mindful of your incision site.
- C-Pap Machines should not be used until 3 weeks after surgery.

Your First Follow-up Appointment:

Stitches used for this operation are dissolvable. You do not need a follow up with Dr. Jacob unless there is a concern. Please make sure you have your appointment with Audiology for activation when you return to Tucson.

Call Ear & Hearing @ Center for Neurosciences (520-795-7750) if you observe:

- Increased pain not relieved by Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- Large amounts of bleeding from the ear.
- Pus/Foul smelling drainage from the ear.
- Redness in the ear area.
- Temperature over 101.5° on 2 consecutive readings.

Patient or Caregiver Signature: _____

Date: _____