



# Myringotomy +/- (Ventilation Tube Insertion / Grommet Insertion)

# **Procedure Information Sheet**

#### Introduction

- 1. To make a hole in the eardrum (myringotomy)
- 2. Placement of a ventilation tube through the eardurm

#### Indication

- Secretory otitis media
- Eustachian tube dysfunction
- Acute otitis media

# The Operation / Procedure

The operation is done under local or general anaesthesia. Under the microscope, a small incision is made over the eardrum and the middle ear fluid is aspirated. A ventilation tube may be inserted to allow ventilation of the middle ear.

### **Before the Operation / Procedure**

- 1. Inform your doctor of any medical condition and any medication you are taking. The medications may need to be adjusted as appropriate.
- 2. Intended benefits and expected outcome
  - 2.1 To normalize the middle ear pressure
  - 2.2 To drain the middle ear
  - 2.3 Hearing improvement
  - 2.4 There is chance of incomplete relief of symptoms and recurrence after extrusion of the grommet
- 3. Conditions that would not be benefited by the procedure
  - 3.1 Tinnitus
  - 3.2 Dizziness

#### After the Operation / Procedure

- 1. Small amount of blood stained ear discharge is normal. Please keep your ear dry.
- 2. See the doctor as scheduled

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# **Risk and Complication**

- 1. There are always certain side effects and risks of complications of the procedure. Medical staff will take every preventive measure to reduce their likelihood.
- 2. Common risks and complications (> 1% risk)
  - 2.1 Recurrence
  - 2.2 Infection
  - 2.3 Bleeding
  - 2.4 Residual eardrum perforation
- 3. Uncommon risks with serious consequences (<1% risk)
  - 3.1 Hearing loss
  - 3.2 Vertigo
  - 3.3 Facial nerve damage
  - 3.4 Dislodgement of ventilation tube into middle ear
  - 3.5 Implantation Cholesteatoma
  - 3.6 Death due to serious surgical and anaesthetic complications
- 4. Consequences of no treatment
  - 4.1 Persistent hearing loss
  - 4.2 Progression of infection with complications

## **Alternative Treatment / Investigation**

- 1. Medical treatment
- 2. Hearing aid

#### **Disclaimer**

This leaflet only provides general information pertaining to this operation / procedure. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

### Reference

Smart patient website by Hospital Authority: Myringotomy+/-Ventilation Tube Insertion (2/2020)

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