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ENT  
GROUP

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## Removal of PE tubes and Repair of Eardrum

Occasionally, the pressure equalization (PE) tubes remain in place longer than the standard 12-18 months. If necessary, the ENT may recommend that the tubes be removed.

For this procedure, the tubes are removed in the operating room under the surgical microscope. The small hole, or perforation, in the eardrum is repaired by placing a fat graft through a procedure called a **myringoplasty**. The fat is obtained by making a ½ inch incision behind one of the ears in the crease between the ear and the scalp. The incision is closed with three sutures that absorb on their own.

The fat is used as a graft and is placed through the perforation. This allows the eardrum to heal into the fat and seals the perforation.

The patient typically undergoes general anesthesia with a face mask during this procedure and does not require IV placement.

Post-operative care requires keeping the grafted ear completely dry. When the patient showers or gets the head wet, cotton with Vaseline or Neosporin is placed in the ear canal to seal the canal and prevent water from going into the canal and infecting the fat graft.

The incision behind the ear requires minimal-to-no care. The sutures are resorbed and come out on their own within 5-7 days.

If the patient experiences any problems, please call our office.

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