



Greenville Ear, Nose & Throat

BAHA (Bone-anchored Hearing Aid) Surgery

You have been scheduled to have a hearing aid anchored to the bone behind your ear. This minor surgery is done to improve your hearing and usually takes place under IV sedation.

To anchor the hearing aid, a cut of about 1.5-2 inches is made. (Before making this cut, a patch of hair may need to be shaved.) A small skin punch then is used to create an opening for a tiny screw to be implanted in the bone, similar to a dental implant.

The BAHA device is made up of three parts:

1. The screw that is anchored to the bone behind the ear.
2. A cone-shaped part that connects to the screw.
3. The hearing aid that clips to the cone-shaped part.

The system works by taking the sound from the outside and transmitting it through the bone to the inner ear—where hearing takes place.

Before Surgery

- Do not take aspirin products (such as Motrin), vitamin E, fish oil or multi-vitamins for 3 weeks before surgery. Tylenol may be used.
- Do not eat or drink after midnight the night before the surgery.
- Do not use styling products in your hair the day before or the day of surgery.

After Surgery

- Do not plan to drive yourself home from the hospital.
- Do not exercise hard or lift objects weighing more than 10 pounds for 2 weeks after surgery.
- You may need pain medication and will be ordered to take an antibiotic for about 1 week.
- You will wear a “healing cap” that will remain in place until your first follow-up visit.
- Expect some swelling and puffiness at the surgical site. To reduce swelling, keep your head up and sleep on several pillows.
- You may shower 1 week after surgery. After the healing cap comes off, please clean around the cone-shaped device.

When to Call the Doctor

Call our office if you have any of the following:

- Redness or swelling that continues to worsen.
- Drainage from the surgical site.
- A fever over 101°F if the fever does not respond to Tylenol.

Please call our office if you have questions about this information:

Patewood (864) 454-4368

Greer (864) 797-9400