



Greenville Ear, Nose & Throat

Post-op Care for Cervical/Facial Mass Removal

Here are common questions parents and/or patients have after this surgery. The information below will answer most of these concerns. Rest assured, however, that we will be happy to talk with you or see your child if the issue is not resolved.

What can my child eat after surgery?

Your child can eat anything after surgery. However, many children avoid eating because of pain. As long as drinking is good, do not worry about eating.

Will my child have a fever?

A low-grade fever is normal in the first day or so after surgery. Please call our office if the temperature exceeds 101.5°F.

What can my child do?

Activity can increase as the child desires. Generally, children can return to school when they are eating and drinking normally.

What about wound care?

Keep the area clean and dry for 2-3 days. Thereafter, gently wash it with warm soapy water and patted dry. Mild swelling in the area is normal. However, major swelling, redness, warmth or extreme tenderness is unusual. If this occurs, please call our office right away.

What can control the pain?

For the first few days, give acetaminophen and ibuprofen. Then, reduce as needed, alternating up to every three hours with the following dosing schedule:

For mild pain:

Give acetaminophen every 4-6 hours as needed. You can alternate it with ibuprofen every 6 hours as needed.

Another option is to switch off acetaminophen and ibuprofen every 3 hours.

For breakthrough pain (pain not controlled by drugs above): Older children can receive a stronger pain medication, such as hydrocodone. Alternate it with acetaminophen every 4-6 hours as needed. However, do not use hydrocodone/acetaminophen while your child is sleeping.

Another option is to switch off hydrocodone and ibuprofen every 3 hours.

Do not use Lortab to prevent pain or give it to a sleepy child.

When is the follow-up visit?

A visit to your child's surgeon is needed 1 week after surgery. If problems arise before that time, please call our practice.

Please call our office if you have questions about this information: (864) 454-4368.