

Discharge Advice

Examination under anaesthetic (EUA) of ears

Examination under anaesthetic (EUA) of ears:

An examination under anaesthetic of the ear(s) may be required for one or a number of the following reasons:

- Removal of a foreign body from the ear canal
- Removal of ear wax and ear canal/ear drum assessment
- Removal of pus or inflammatory tissue (e.g. a polyp) from the ear followed by ear canal/drum assessment
- Biopsy of an abnormality within the ear

This procedure can be performed either under local anaesthetic (cream and /or an injection to numb the ear canal) or a general anaesthetic (medication given to induce sleep). A general anaesthetic is usually used in children as it's important that they remain still for the procedure.

Care of ear after surgery:

It is important to keep the/your ear dry after surgery. You can do this by keeping your head above water and putting some cotton wool smeared with Vaseline into the ear when in the bath/shower. Your surgeon will advise you on the length of time you need to keep the ear dry.

You may be given some drops to put into the ear canal post-surgery. You should administer these as prescribed.

A pack may be inserted into your ear canal during the surgery in order to either help to treat infection or stop any bleeding. You will require a follow up appointment in order to have the pack removed. Depending on the type of pack inserted, it will need to be removed between 3 days and 4 weeks post-surgery.

Recovery time:

Pain and discomfort tends to be mild and usually improves within a few days. You will be given specific advice on pain relief prior to discharge by your nurse. Usually simple painkillers such as paracetamol and ibuprofen are effective.

If you have had the procedure under local anaesthetic, you can return to work/school the next day. After general anaesthetic, 48 hours off work/school is recommended.

Follow up:

Your surgeon will advise prior to your discharge from hospital whether or not a follow up outpatient appointment is required. Should you be told that you require a follow up but not receive an appointment, please call the outpatient booking office on 01495 765055.

EMERGENCY DISCHARGE INFORMATION

Should you require urgent advice you should contact

09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays): Contact the ENT Treatment room on 01633 234018

After 17:00/overnight (adults): Ward C0 on 01633 493926.

After 17:00/overnight (children): Ward C1 on 01633 493609.

In the event of an emergency, attend your closest Accident & Emergency department

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