WHAT IS MYRINGOTOMY AND TUBE INSERTION?

Myringotomy and tube insertion is a surgical procedure done by Ear, Nose and Throat specialists. It is used to treat conditions that impair eustachian tube function. These conditions include upper respiratory infections (such as colds and flu), allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area.

WHAT IS THE EUSTACHIAN TUBE?

The eustachian tube is a structure in our skull that connects the middle ear to the very back of the nose. It allows fluid to drain out of the ear, air to enter the ear, and the pressure inside the ear to equalize. The eustachian tube often works poorly in young children, and the function of the tube usually improves, and this is most noticeable around age 6. The normal function of the eustachian tube can be affected by anything that causes swelling, inflammation or blockage of the back of the nose. Common conditions that impair eustachian tube function are upper respiratory infections (cold and flu, allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area).

WHAT IS ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA?

Acute otitis media is an infection of the middle ear: it can be caused by bacteria or viruses. Its onset is usually common in between the ages of 6 to 24 months, and continues to occur in about 2% of children each year. When the pain in the affected ear and often fever. In- flammation becomes worse and sleep poorly. They may also feel poorly and have diarrhea or vomiting. Older children and adults will complain of pain, hearing loss and a plugged sensation in the affected ear. Acute otitis media may follow an upper respiratory tract infection, such as a cold. In some individuals it may be related to allergies or sinusitis. All of these conditions affect the function of the eustachian tube.

POSSIBLE PROBLEMS

The most common problems following this procedure is drainage from the ear. It is not uncommon for there to be some drainage for the first few days after surgery, which may be blood tinged. If the drainage persists, it may be a sign of infection. Infection is a rare complication requiring treatment usually with ear drops and sometimes as oral antibiotics. There may be no pain or fever associated with infection, but the drainage is usually thick, yellow or gray colored. Because the middle ear fluid is trapped behind the eardrum in the middle ear. This fluid buildup causes hearing loss and a plugged sensation.

WHY IS THIS PROCEDURE DONE?

Myringotomy and tube insertion is usually done for one or two reasons. Either you are having recurrent ear infections (recurrent acute otitis media) or you have a chronic or recurrent dry middle ear with effusion (chronic otitis media with effusion). Occasionally it is per- formed for persistent eustachian tube problems that do not resolve with medical management.

WHY IS ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA?

Myringotomy and tube insertion is a surgical procedure done by Ear, Nose and Throat specialists. It is used to treat conditions that impair eustachian tube function. These conditions include upper respiratory infections (such as colds and flu), allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area.

WHAT IS OtITIS MEDIA WITH EFFUSION?

Otitis media with effusion is a condition where fluid is trapped behind the eardrum in the middle ear. This fluid buildup causes hearing loss and a plugged sensation. It also makes the patient very susceptible to recurrent ear infections (acute otitis media). Fluid then trapped in the middle ear when the normal drainage system of the ear (the tubes which drain to the nose) does not work properly.

WHAT IS THE EUSTACHIAN TUBE?

The eustachian tube connects the middle ear to the very back of the nose. It allows fluid to drain out of the ear, air to enter the ear, and the pressure inside the ear to equalize. The eustachian tube often works poorly in young children since it is narrower, the supporting carti- lage is softer and its position in the skull is more horizontal. As the child grows the function of the eustachian tube usually improves, and this is noticeable around age 6. The normal function of the eustachian tube can be affected by anything that causes swelling, inflammation or blockage of the back of the nose. Common conditions that impair eustachian tube function are upper respiratory infections (cold and flu, allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area).

WHAT IS THE EUSTACHIAN TUBE?

The eustachian tube connects the middle ear to the very back of the nose. It allows fluid to drain out of the ear, air to enter the ear, and the pressure inside the ear to equalize. The eustachian tube often works poorly in young children since it is narrower, the supporting cartilage is softer and its position in the skull is more horizontal. As the child grows the function of the eustachian tube usually improves, and this is noticeable around age 6. The normal function of the eustachian tube can be affected by anything that causes swelling, inflammation or blockage of the back of the nose. Common conditions that impair eustachian tube function are upper respiratory infections (cold and flu, allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area).

WHAT IS ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA?

Acute otitis media is an infection of the middle ear: it can be caused by bacteria or viruses. Its onset is usually common in between the ages of 6 to 24 months, and continues to occur in about 2% of children each year. When the pain in the affected ear and often fever. Inflammation becomes worse and sleep poorly. They may also feel poorly and have diarrhea or vomiting. Older children and adults will complain of pain, hearing loss and a plugged sensation in the affected ear. Acute otitis media may follow an upper respiratory tract infection, such as a cold. In some individuals it may be related to allergies or sinusitis. All of these conditions affect the function of the eustachian tube.

WHAT IS THE EUSTACHIAN TUBE?

The eustachian tube connects the middle ear to the very back of the nose. It allows fluid to drain out of the ear, air to enter the ear, and the pressure inside the ear to equalize. The eustachian tube often works poorly in young children since it is narrower, the supporting cartilage is softer and its position in the skull is more horizontal. As the child grows the function of the eustachian tube usually improves, and this is noticeable around age 6. The normal function of the eustachian tube can be affected by anything that causes swelling, inflammation or blockage of the back of the nose. Common conditions that impair eustachian tube function are upper respiratory infections (cold and flu, allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area).

WHAT IS THE EUSTACHIAN TUBE?

The eustachian tube connects the middle ear to the very back of the nose. It allows fluid to drain out of the ear, air to enter the ear, and the pressure inside the ear to equalize. The eustachian tube often works poorly in young children since it is narrower, the supporting cartilage is softer and its position in the skull is more horizontal. As the child grows the function of the eustachian tube usually improves, and this is noticeable around age 6. The normal function of the eustachian tube can be affected by anything that causes swelling, inflammation or blockage of the back of the nose. Common conditions that impair eustachian tube function are upper respiratory infections (cold and flu, allergy, sinus infections, enlarged adenoids, and tumors or growths in the area).