PE Tube Insertion Postoperative Instructions

Diet
Your child should begin with clear liquids. If well tolerated, your child can proceed to a regular diet later in the day. It is best not to attempt solid food until you arrive home.

Activity
Your child may or may not act like “themselves” for the first several hours due to anesthesia. Some children may experience nausea, vomiting, or fatigue from the anesthesia which should resolve within a few hours. By the afternoon or evening of the operation, they should be “back to normal.” There are no activity restrictions.

Pain
Usually there is little pain from tube placement. Occasionally there may be mild discomfort for one or two days, which can be treated with Tylenol (acetaminophen) products or ibuprofen products, following the guidelines on the bottle.

Drainage
Fluid present within the ear is removed during surgery. Occasionally, there may be some post-operative drainage of fluid in any color (clear, green, yellow, brown, pink/bloody). This can last for two to four days following surgery.

Medications
Please use the drops as follows: three drops, three times a day, for three days. In some children, these drops can cause a burning sensation. You can stop using the drops if your child is unable to tolerate this.

Follow Up
Should be arranged for 2 - 3 weeks after surgery. Please call the office if an appointment has not already been arranged.