



UNC

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY/
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

DIVISION OF NEURO-OTOLOGY &
SKULL BASE SURGERY

Discharge Instructions – BAHA Implantation

Please Read and Follow These Instructions for the Best Outcomes Following Your Surgery!

FOLLOWING SURGERY:

- **Outer dressing removed in 24 hours**
- **Sutures and inner dressing removed at 1 week** after surgery at first postoperative visit if abutment placed. If magnetic BAHA placed may not have external sutures to remove. May not get hair wet for 1 week after surgery.
- **May not get hair wet** for 1 week after surgery.
- **Clean crusts from incision and apply ointment for 1 week** after inner dressing removed. Clean BAHA abutment with toothbrush as instructed by audiologist.

ACTIVATION:

- **External device attached** - patient instructed on use
 - **6 weeks (or later) after surgery for abutment**
 - **4 weeks after surgery for magnetic BAHA.**

ACTIVITY:

- **Minimize your activities**
 - Listen to your body! If you feel tired over the first few days, you should rest.
- **No heavy lifting > 2 bags of groceries** for the first 2 weeks.

MEDICATIONS:

- **Resume your home medications.**
- **Do not take any aspirin containing products or blood thinners** (Goody's, BC Powder or Bayer aspirin) until told to by your surgeon.
- **Pain:**
 - **Take pain medication as needed.**
 - **NEVER DRIVE A VEHICLE OR OPERATE HEAVY MACHINERY WHEN TAKING PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICINE**

DRIVING:

- **Do not drive** within 24 hours of receiving anesthesia or taking pain medication.
- **DO NOT DRIVE WHILE TAKING PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATION.**

DIET:

- **Resume a healthy, balanced, normal diet** as you feel up to it.

FOLLOW UP:

- **You will have important follow-up appointments.**
- **Follow up appointments will be made prior to surgery** with the post-op appointment scheduler.

POST-OP APPOINTMENTS:

- **Dr. Kevin Brown** call Ali at 984.974.3645
- **Dr. Harold Pillsbury** call Phyllis at 984.974.3644

CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS:

- **Dr. Kevin Brown** call Shanta at 984.974.3655
- **Dr. Harold Pillsbury** call Sonia at 919.966.3709

CALL OUR OFFICE OR GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Any vision problems/changes
- Fever over 101.4
- Neck Stiffness
- Heavy or prolonged bright red bleeding from the incisions
- **For Immediate Assistance call:**
 - Regular Hours - 984.974.3409 (Triage Nurse)
 - After Hours - 984.974.1000 (Ask for the Ear, Nose & Throat - ENT - doctor on call)
- **To leave a voicemail for your surgeon's nurse call:**
 - Dr. Kevin Brown - 984.974.3519 (BJ)
 - Dr. Harold Pillsbury - 984.974.3518 (Kathy)