

BC Children's Hospital Audiology Services

Bone Conduction Hearing Implant Surgery

Information For Parents Considering a Bone Conduction Hearing Implant for Their Child



How do we prepare for surgery?

- Learn more at the BC Children's Hospital Procedures and Surgical Services page: www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/hospitalservices/procedures-surgical-services
- Wash your child's hair the night before surgery. After the surgery, your child can't wash their hair for 7 days.
- Your child will need to fast before the surgery. The Pre-Anesthesia Clinic will call you a few days prior to your child's surgery to review the anesthetic (sleep medicine) and fasting instructions. If you don't hear from them, please call 604-875-3447. They may schedule an inperson visit if needed.
- Your child will likely be discharged from the hospital on the same day of the surgery.
- For out-of-town families, we ask that you and your child stay one night in-town after surgery to allow your child to recover.
 Please make arrangements for this. If you need help with accommodations, please call the BC Family Residence Program at 1-866-496-6946.



What happens during surgery?

- Your child will have a general anesthetic (sleep medicine).
- The surgery usually takes about 1-2 hours.
- An incision (cut) is made behind your child's ear. This allows the surgeon to insert the implant.



What can we expect after surgery?

Incision line

 Dissolvable stitches are used to close the skin along with topical glue.

Dressing

 Sometimes there is a dressing or gauze around the ear(s) that have been implanted. Usually there is no dressing. If your child's head dressing comes off overnight, it is not necessary to replace it.

Pain & medication

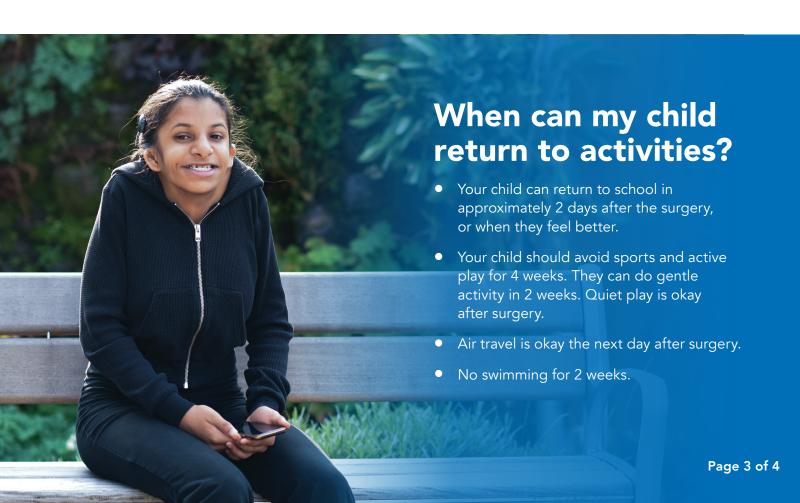
- You should give your child Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Advil (ibuprofen) regularly every 4-8 hours for the first few days for pain, and then as needed. Follow the bottle's instructions.
- If your child is in lots of pain after surgery, your child needs to be assessed.

Diet

 Your child can eat their normal diet when they are ready. Encourage lots of fluids.

Bathing and showering

 Do not wash your child's hair for 7 days. Your child can have a bath but avoid getting water over the incision line. After 7 days, you may wash your child's hair, but be gentle with the incision site.





- Your child has a fever higher than 38.5°C

- Your child vomits more than 24 hours after
- The incision line opens up
- You have other worries about your child.

If there is bright red bleeding that does not stop, or other urgent concerns, please go to your nearest emergency department.

Contact information

ENT office: 604-875-2113

ENT clinic nurse:

604-875-2345 ext. 7053

Monday to Fridays, except holidays

8:30am-4:30pm

Your audiologist for questions about your child's external processor

