

POST-OP INSTRUCTIONS

BAHA Attract System

What to Expect After Surgery

- **Medications:** If antibiotics are prescribed, please take them as directed until they are all gone. You may take over-the-counter pain medications or pain medication prescribed by your surgeon as needed. You may use Tylenol® or NSAIDs such as Motrin® or Advil® after BAHA surgery. Prescription pain medications may cause drowsiness, somnolence, nausea and constipation. Please refrain from driving, operating machinery or making important decisions when taking prescription pain medications.
- **Symptoms:** You may notice numbing or tingling of the skin around your implant. This will improve with time.
- **Postoperative Visits:** You should have an appointment to see your surgeon 7-10 days after surgery. Your sound processor will be placed after your surgeon determines you have healed properly after surgery; this usually occurs about 3 weeks after surgery but may vary. After surgery, yearly check-ups and hearing tests are recommended.

Post-operative Care Instructions

- **Diet:** After surgery, it is not uncommon to have nausea and occasional vomiting. Increase to your regular diet as tolerated.
- **Activity:** Avoid heavy lifting of more than 10 pounds, straining, and strenuous exercise for 2 weeks after surgery.
- **Wound Care:** You may remove your head dressing the day after surgery. If you were given a plastic ear cup, you may wear it as needed to protect your implant when you sleep or during other activities. When sleeping, try to sleep on the unoperated ear.
- **Incision Care:** It is okay to get water inside your ear canal. However, keep your incision dry for 48 hours after surgery; wearing a shower cap is helpful. Afterwards, you may wash your hair and allow the incision to get wet, but do not scrub at your incision or allow the incision to soak under water. After 48 hours, you may clean the incision with soap and water, then apply some antibiotic ointment (such as bacitracin) twice daily. You may also gently clean any crusting with peroxide and Q-tips®.

When to Call After Surgery

- Fever higher than 101° F
- Redness, swelling, or foul-smelling drainage around the incision
- Any other concerning signs or symptoms