colour, or it begins to smell unpleasant, you will need to see an ENT doctor. You will need to keep your ear dry until you have seen the doctor. When showering or washing your hair, you should:

- put a piece of cotton wool with Vaseline on it in your ear; or
- place a plastic cup over your ear. You may need some help.

We recommend you have two weeks off work or school. A sick note will be provided on request.

Do's and Don'ts:
- Don’t get your ear wet.
- Do check with the ENT doctor if you are planning any air travel.
- Don’t mix with people who have coughs and colds.
- Do sneeze through your mouth, if you can. Sneezing through the nose can cause excess pressure in your ear.
- Don’t blow your nose for at least two weeks.
- Don’t touch the dressing inside your ear.
- Don’t stick anything inside your ear.

Comments, compliments or complaints

We welcome any suggestions you have about the quality of our care and our services.

Contact us:
Freephone: 0800 1613997
Phone: 01625 661449
Textphone: 01625 663723
Customer Care, Reception, Macclesfield District General Hospital, Victoria Road, SK10 3BL
Email: Customercare.service@echeshire-tr.nwest.nhs.uk
For large print, audio, Braille version or translation contact Patient & Public Involvement on 0800 195 494.

Mastoidectomy 10287

NHS Direct (part of NHS Choices) is a 24 hr phone advice service providing confidential health advice and information.

Phone: 0845 4647
(Textphone 0845 606 46 47)
www.nhs.uk

East Cheshire NHS Trust is committed to ensuring that patients and staff will always be treated with dignity and respect. There will be no age, disability, gender, race, sexual orientation or religious discrimination.

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Pain
You may experience some pain, or a feeling of pressure in the ear. Please tell the nurse, so that painkillers can be given.

Dressings
- You will have a pack covered in an antiseptic solution in your ear. This will stay in your ear for one to three weeks.
- You will have a turban-like bandage around your head. This will stop any bleeding that may occur. The nurse will remove this the day after your operation.
- If all is well, you will be allowed to go home the day after your operation.
- You will be given an appointment to see the doctor in Outpatients in one week. You will then have your stitches removed and your ear checked.

Complications
There are rare complications with this surgery. Your ENT doctor should have explained these. Please ask if you don’t understand anything.

After the surgery
You may need a drip, until you feel able to drink. Because surgery takes place near the part of the ear that controls your balance, you may sometimes experience mild dizziness and nausea. This should settle quite quickly.

Going home
It is a legal requirement that you do not drive for 48 hours following a general anaesthetic, therefore you will need transport home.

At home
You may have a yellow discharge from your ear. This is due to the packing. However, if it changes