Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Center Transtympanic Cochlear Perfusion Therapy

# **Questions?**

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or health care provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC staff are also available to help.

Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., call the Nurse Voice Mail Line at 206-598-7519. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

After hours and on holidays and weekends, call 206-598-6190 and ask for the Otolaryngologist on-call to be paged.

UW Medicine

Otolaryngology – Head and

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Box 356161

1959 N.E. Pacific St. Seattle, WA 98195

206-598-4022

Call the Clinic Nurse or Doctor On-Call If You Have:

- A fever higher than 101°F (38.3°C)
- Drainage from your ear
- Vertigo (feeling dizzy)

#### Notes

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# Patient Education Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Center

Transtympanic Cochlear Perfusion Therapy

About your procedure

In transtympanic cochlear perfusion therapy, your doctor will inject medicine into your inner ear. To do this, your doctor will insert a needle through your eardrum (the *tympanic membrane*). The medicine then moves (*perfuses*) into your inner ear.

This handout explains how the procedure is done, how to prepare for it, and what to expect afterward.

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## How to Prepare for Your Procedure

- Arrange for someone to drive you home after your procedure, if possible.
- You may eat normally and take your regular medicines.

## How the Procedure Is Done

This procedure takes place in the clinic and usually lasts less than 1 hour. This includes recovery time.

A local *anesthetic* (numbing medicine) is applied to your eardrum. Then, a small incision is made in your eardrum and a small tube is inserted through this incision. An antibiotic (Gentamycin) or a steroid medicine (Dexamethasone) is then injected into your middle ear.

The number of injections you receive and the length of your overall treatment will be based on your treatment plan.

## What to Expect After Your Procedure

#### Side Effects

You may have mild imbalance for 7 to 10 days if you were treated with Gentamycin.

#### Pain

Most patients have very little pain after this procedure. You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) if needed.

#### Diet

You may eat normally.

#### **Return to Work**

You will not need to take time off work after this procedure.

# Precautions and Self-care to Speed Your Recovery

• Do **not** allow water to get into your ear until your doctor tells you this is OK.

#### Follow-up

You will need to return to the clinic often to have your hearing checked. Your doctor will tell you how often you will need to come in.

#### Your Follow-up Appointments: