

# After Ear Surgery: FAQ

## How long will I be in the hospital?

Your surgery is booked as a same-day surgery. This means that you will be discharged home after surgery. You will not stay in the hospital overnight. You will need a responsible adult to take you home and stay with you overnight.

## How long do I have to stay in Halifax?

If you are travelling more than 2 hours, we recommend that you stay in the Halifax area for the night after your surgery. You can return home the next day.

## When can I return to work?

Going back to work depends on your job. If your job has physical demands such as heavy lifting, pushing, pulling, or straining, you must take 3 weeks off after surgery, or return sooner with a modified work schedule. If your job does not have physical demands, you may be able to return 1 week after surgery.

## When can I fly?

You can fly 3 weeks after your surgery. If you need to fly sooner than 3 weeks, check with Dr. Shoman first.

## When can I remove the cotton ball from my ear?

The cotton ball in your ear canal is there to catch any bleeding from your ear. At first you may need to change the cotton ball every few hours. The bleeding will slow down and then stop completely within a few days. Once the bleeding has completely stopped, you can remove the cotton ball.

## How long do I use ear drops after surgery?

The doctor will prescribe antibiotic ear drops for you to use for one week after your surgery.

## Can I shower right away?

Follow water precautions until your post-operative visit. Try not to get water in your ear after surgery. A tub bath is best until after your followup visit.

## When can I start driving again?

We recommend waiting for 2 weeks after your surgery before driving again.

**If you have any of these symptoms, call Dr. Shoman's office at 902-473-5975 or go to the nearest Emergency Department:**

- › a lot of bleeding or swelling
- › sudden hearing loss
- › facial weakness  
(facial muscles droop or feel weak)
- › bad dizziness

### Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <http://library.nshealth.ca/PatientGuides>

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

*Nova Scotia Health Authority promotes a smoke-free, vape-free, and scent-free environment.*

*Please do not use perfumed products. Thank you!*

[www.nshealth.ca](http://www.nshealth.ca)

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