



Central West Specialists

Ear, Nose & Throat Specialist

REMOVAL OF GROMMETS

Grommets are inserted mostly on young children for recurring middle ear infections for glue ear, causing hearing loss. These grommets will normally come out from the eardrum spontaneously at about eighteen months after the operation.

Sometimes the grommets will not come out or alternatively an infection may build up and not respond to medication, and for this reason the grommets are sometimes removed.

This is done as a day procedure. There is usually some bleeding from the ear afterwards but this helps keep the area clean and allows the eardrum to heal. Healing time is three to four weeks and at that stage the ears are checked to make sure all is well and the infections have gone away.

Sometimes the glue ear returns or the child starts to develop further ear infections and unfortunately this situation is sometimes necessary to put the grommets back in again. If the eardrum does not heal eventually it may need to be patched. This of course would require a second operation but it is not common.

The most important thing after the operation is to keep the ears dry, to keep germs away while the area settles down and the eardrum heals.

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