

TE★AS
EAR, NOSE & THROAT
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Adenoidectomy

Adenoids are tonsil-like tissue that grows in the back of the nose. If enlarged or chronically infected, they can cause problems by affecting the function of the eustachian tube or blocking the nasal passages making it difficult to breathe through the nose. The blockage of the nasal passages results in snoring and chronic mouth breathing that can lead to orthodontic problems in the developing child

Adenoids are removed surgically through the mouth and leave no visible scar. Removal may be result in any of the following symptoms:

1. Fever as high as 102°. If greater than this, contact the office.
2. Bad breath. This may last for 10 to 14 days. Nothing can be done for this and it will resolve by itself.
3. Ear pain, headache and stiff neck. This is a result of the healing process and will go away about the same time as the bad breath.
4. Your child's voice may sound different after surgery for 10 to 14 days. This is due to the swelling of the muscles in the throat allowing more air to escape through the nose. This will resolve as the swelling goes down and the muscles begin to work naturally.

A prescription for pain and an antibiotic may be given at the time of discharge. Follow the directions closely and be sure to completely finish the antibiotic, if given.

A postoperative appointment should be made through the office 2 to 4 weeks after surgery.