

POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BAHA



BAHA surgery is performed in the operating room under general anesthesia. Surgery typically lasts 1-2 hours. Patients will spend 2-3 hours in recovery room before being discharged home.

Postoperative medications: Take all home medications except for any blood thinners. You will receive a prescription for pain medication to take as needed. If you do not need prescription pain medication, you may take plain tylenol. Do not take the prescription pain medication and tylenol at the same time.

Diet: There are no dietary restrictions after BAHA surgery.

Activity: Avoid strenuous activity for one week after surgery. Do not drive while on prescription pain medications.

Dressing and wound care: You will be discharged home with a dressing wrapped around your head. You should cut the dressing off the morning after surgery. There will be a foam dressing with a white plastic cap under your dressing. Do not disturb this foam dressing or white cap. Your surgeon will remove this and give you further instructions on your first follow up visit, which will be about 1 week after surgery. Keep this foam dressing dry until your follow up. If the white cap falls off before your follow up, you can attempt to snap it back onto the titanium implant. If you cannot put it back on, call us during daytime hours.

What to expect: You may have mild pain or numbness at the site of the surgery. You may also notice some spotting of blood on the foam dressing. This is normal.

When to call:

1. Fever greater than 102 F
2. Uncontrolled or worsening pain
3. Severe headache
4. Continuous bleeding from the surgical site
5. If the white plastic cap falls off and you cannot snap it back on, call during daytime hours.