Patient/Family Education

Tear duct probe

What is a tear duct probe?

A tear duct probe is done to open a small or blocked tear duct.

What can I expect after surgery?

Most children do not have any discomfort from the procedure. Your child's eyes may be bloodshot. There may be pink-tinged tears, or bloody nose drainage for 1 or 2 days.

How should I care for my child?

It may be helpful to have a wet washcloth in a plastic bag handy in case a nosebleed occurs.

Follow your Discharge Instruction sheet for instructions about diet, activity, pain control, and when to see the surgeon again.

When should I call the surgeon?

- temperature higher than 101° F (38.4° C)
- lower eyelid becomes swollen, tender, or warm
- pus at the tear duct
- nosebleeds that cannot be stopped by squeezing the nose
- pink-tinged tears or bloody nose drainage that lasts more than 2 days

Questions?

This sheet is not specific to your child, but provides general information. If you have any questions please call the surgeon.

For more reading material about this and other health topics, please call or visit the Family Resource Center library, or visit our Web site: www.childrensmn.org.

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