

Montgomery Long Term Cannula

What to expect for your surgery:

The surgery will be performed under sedation or general anesthesia and typically lasts less than 30 minutes. In most cases, you should expect an overnight stay in the hospital though some situations may allow you to go home on the same day.

The procedure involves placement of an alternative type of tracheotomy tube. This is done to improve comfort, decrease maintenance and if possible facilitate subsequent removal of the tracheotomy tube. For some patients it may be a long term solution for management of the tracheotomy.

Please make sure not to eat or drink anything after midnight the night before unless you need a small sip of water for medications on the morning of the procedure.



Picture of the cannula

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What to expect after your surgery:

Pain following the procedure is generally mild. A prescription medication will be provided to control pain. For mild pain, it is acceptable to use ibuprofen or acetaminophen. However, note that the pain prescription provided may contain acetaminophen and therefore, you should not use acetaminophen if you are also using the prescription pain medication.

The cannula does not require a collar around the neck and is designed to be capped continuously. However, if you feel short of breath, uncapping the cannula may relieve your symptoms. If uncapping does not relieve breathing difficulties or if the cannula needs to remain uncapped for extended periods, you should contact your physician immediately.

You may suction the cannula as needed but there should generally be less routine maintenance and suctioning as compared to a standard tracheotomy.

In an emergency situation with shortness of breath not relieved by uncapping, the cannula may be removed by grasping the tube firmly and pulling forward. In this situation, you should contact your physician immediately and proceed to an emergency room.

You may resume your preoperative diet after surgery.

You may resume normal activity following the procedure.

Please call your physician if you experience any of the following: shortness of breath, increasing noisy breathing, inability to swallow, fever >101, or excessive pain not controlled by the pain medication provided.

Your First Postoperative Visit:

A postoperative visit should be scheduled around 1 week after the procedure. If one has not been previously scheduled, please call the office for an appointment.

At your first postoperative visit a fiber optic camera will be used to examine the cannula and possibly also your voice box. Additional follow up will be recommended and scheduled.

For patients that will continue to use the cannula in the long term, it needs to be changed to a new cannula at least yearly and in some patients more frequently.

There may be certain circumstances in which it is acceptable to uncap the cannula on a routine basis. However, these situations should be discussed with your physician.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.bosmed.com/airway-management/montgomeryr-cannula-system.html>

*These instructions can be found online at: **Philadelphiasleepsurgery.com***