

ADENOIDECTOMY

Adenoids are clumps of tissue which normally protects your child from infection. They are located behind the nasal passage (where the airway to the nose joins the throat) and between the Eustachian tubes (where the air passages to the ears join the throat). Sometimes the adenoids grow too large or become chronically infected. Because of their location, large adenoids can cause children to breathe through the mouth, snore, and have frequent ear infections and dental cavities.

An adenoidectomy is surgery to remove the adenoids. The goal of the surgery is to help the child breathe through his/her nose, stop snoring, have fewer ear infections and dental cavities, and hear and speak better.

An adenoidectomy is an outpatient surgical procedure - in other words, your child will probably come home the same day as the surgery. The operation is performed using general anesthesia in the operating room.

The adenoids are removed through your child's mouth. Usually, no bandages are needed. There is a risk of bleeding after surgery, but this generally stops before your child is sent home. If you see bleeding from the nose or mouth, call your doctor.

After your child is home, he/she may eat normal foods and take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for pain.

We'll ask you to bring your child in for a check-up in about two weeks after surgery.

If you have any questions or problems, please call the Advanced Center for Specialty Care at (773) 296-7040 or the 24 hour answering service at (312) 236-3642.