

THE TAMPA BAY HEARING & BALANCE CENTER
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Post-operative care - how to keep the area around the abutment clean

At your first visit to the clinic after the abutment surgery (after five to seven days) the healing cap and the ointment soaked gauze are removed. The doctor will clean the area around the abutment and let it aerate for one hour. The healing cap is then repositioned and new ointment soaked gauze is put in place. At your next visit, after another five to seven days, the healing cap and the gauze are removed and the area left open.

For the following 2-3 weeks you should clean the area daily with ointment. After this period you can switch to soap and warm water and only use the ointment occasionally.

It is important to clean the area around the abutment daily since skin debris may build up around the abutment and if not removed it can cause irritation and redness. Use a baby toothbrush or cotton buds to make sure that all debris is removed.

The screw must heal in place **at least six to eight weeks** before the BAHA can be attached. It takes about three months for the titanium to become a fixed immovable part of the bone. For children, the healing period is up to **three months**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office at 813-844-4900.



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