1. Direct microlaryngoscopy is performed for examination of the larynx (voicebox) for purposes of diagnoses, biopsy, stripping of a vocal cord, or a laser treatment of the vocal cord.

2. Pain following surgery is usually mild but may be related either to pressure on the teeth and tongue during the procedure or to the throat itself. It can be treated either with aspirin or Tylenol or with prescription pain medication provided by the doctor.

3. Coughing or spitting out small amounts of blood is normal for the first few days. If bleeding persists more than 5 days or is severe, call the doctor.

4. On the day of release from the hospital, soft foods should be eaten until you are confident that you can chew and swallow normally. Then, a normal diet is satisfactory. Drink plenty of fluids to keep the throat moist.

5. You should not smoke or drink anything alcoholic until it is approved by the doctor.

6. Completely normal physical activity is permitted the day after the procedure.

7. For most procedures, voice rest will be required for the first week after surgery. Your doctor will discuss this with you.

REASONS TO CALL THE DOCTOR:

- Difficulty breathing
- Stridor: harsh-sounding or high-pitch sound from breathing
- Cyanosis: blue discoloration of fingernails, lips, mucous membranes
- Decreased mental status
- Difficulty swallowing