

## HEAD INJURY INSTRUCTIONS





Digital Version



## **HEAD INJURY INSTRUCTIONS**

A head injury is any trauma that injures the scalp, skull, or brain. The injury may be only a minor bump on the skull or a serious brain injury. Most of these injuries are minor because the skull protects the brain. However, some injuries are severe enough to require a stay in the hospital. The head injuries can be either closed or open (penetrating). Always see a doctor or nurse if you are concerned about an injury.

See a doctor quickly if any of the following symptoms occur after a head injury

• Drowsiness when you would normally be wide awake

• Worsening headache

• Confusion, strange behaviour, any problems understanding or speaking

Vomiting

• Loss of use of part of the body. For example, weakness in an arm or leg

• Dizziness, loss of balance or convulsions

• Any visual problems, such as blurring of vision or double vision

• Blood, or clear fluid, leaking from the nose or ear

• New deafness in one or both ears

• Unusual breathing patterns

## SOME TIPS AND GENERAL ADVICE

• If possible, do not stay at home alone for the first 48hours after being assessed for a head injury.

• Show a relative or friend this advice leaflet so they too know what symptoms to look out for.

• Stay within easy reach of a telephone and medical help for the next few days.

• Do not take any alcohol or drugs for the next few days.

• Do not take sleeping tablets or sedatives unless prescribed by a doctor.

• Discuss with your doctor about playing contact sports such as rugby or football. It is often advised that you should not play contact sports for three weeks following a head injury.

• Do not drive, ride a motorbike or bicycle, or operate machinery until you feel completely recovered.





PLEASE SCAN FOR THE LOCATION



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