



**We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.**

**To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18802.**

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

**Ashford Hospital**  
London Road  
Ashford, Middlesex  
TW15 3AA  
Tel: **01784 884488**

**St. Peter's Hospital**  
Guildford Road  
Chertsey, Surrey  
KT16 0PZ.  
Tel: **01932 872000**

Website: [www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk](http://www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk)

# Head Injury (Child)

## Paediatrics Department

# Head Injury (Child)

## HEAD INJURIES AND SYMPTOMS

Minor head injuries and knocks to the head are common, particularly in children. Following the injury, if the child is awake and there are no visible deep cuts, large bruises or bumps, it is unusual for there to be any damage to the brain.

We think that it is safe for your child to leave hospital now. We have checked their symptoms and they seem well on the road to recovery. When you get them home it is very unlikely that they will have any further problems, but if any of the following symptoms do return, we suggest you **take them back to their nearest hospital A&E department as soon as possible**.

- any episodes of collapse or fits (collapse with shaking of arms and/or legs)
- unconsciousness, difficulty waking the patient up, unusual or persistent sleepiness when your child would usually be wide awake
- any unusual confusion (not knowing where they are, getting things muddled up), or problems with understanding you or speaking to you
- crying in a continual and irritable way which cannot be settled
- any unsteadiness when standing or walking, or unusual weakness
- very painful headache, or a headache that won't go away after giving a painkiller (such as children's paracetamol or ibuprofen)
- being sick several times (vomiting once soon after a head injury is very common and less serious)
- new bleeding or persistent leak of fluid from nose or ears
- new bruises appearing or spreading, especially around the eyes or ears
- any new problems with their eyesight or hearing

## WHEN YOU GO HOME

If your child is feeling unwell allow him/her to rest if they wish. These symptoms should improve steadily, and your child will be back to normal within a day or so. If they feel well enough, you can allow them to play normally.

## THINGS YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT

Your child may feel some other symptoms over the next few days which should improve over the next 2 weeks. These might include:

- a mild headache, which improves with a children's painkiller
- feeling sick (without vomiting) or lack of appetite

- mild dizziness
- slight irritability or bad temper
- mild problems with concentration or memory
- tiredness (but without being difficult to wake) or problems sleeping

**If you feel concerned about any of these symptoms after your child is discharged, you should take your child to see a doctor.**

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Paediatric Accident and Emergency Department  
St. Peter's Hospital  
Guildford Road  
Chertsey  
Surrey KT16 0PZ  
Telephone 01932 872000

For reassurance and advice please contact NHS Direct on: 0845 4647

The following website gives useful advice about a head injury: [www.nhsdirect.co.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.co.uk)

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## Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email [pals@asph.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@asph.nhs.uk). If you still remain concerned please contact our Complaints Manager on 01932 722612 or email [complaints@asph.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints@asph.nhs.uk).

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