

Patient information

Head Injury Important Information for Children and Carers

Emergency Care – Royal Liverpool Hospital

After a head injury the child should not be left alone, and the carer should observe them closely for the first 24 hours.

If your child is affected by any of the following problems, we suggest you take them to the nearest hospital emergency department as soon as possible.

Please look out for the following symptoms:

Unconsciousness, or lack of full consciousness (for example, problems keeping eyes open) any confusion (not knowing where they are, getting things muddled up)

Any drowsiness (feeling sleepy) that goes on for longer than one hour when they would normally be wide awake.

- Difficulty waking your child up.
- Any problems understanding or speaking.
- Any loss of balance or problems walking.
- Any weakness in one or both arms or legs.
- Any problems with the child's eyesight.
- Very painful headache that won't go away.
- Any vomiting – getting sick.
- Any fits (collapsing or passing out suddenly).
- Clear fluid coming out of the child's ear or nose.
- Bleeding from one or both ears.
- new deafness in one or both ears.

Please follow this advice to ensure the child does not develop any further problems and it may help any symptoms the child has to go away.

Advice for Carers

- Do not leave your child alone in the home for the first 48hrs after leaving hospital.
- Do not give your child sleeping pills, sedatives or tranquilisers unless they are prescribed for your child by a doctor.
- Do make sure you stay within easy reach of a telephone and medical help.
- Do make sure that the child avoids stressful situations.
- Do make sure the child has plenty of rest.
- Do not allow the child to play any contact sport (for example, rugby or football) for at least three weeks without talking to your doctor first.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further information

The Royal Liverpool Hospital

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Review Date: May 2026

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