

Pediatric Head Injury Precautions

It is important that you check the child every few hours after the injury until the child is feeling better and eating well.

Contact the doctor if any of these warning signs appear:

- **Blood** or **fluid** draining from the child's ears or nose.
- **Confusion** or unusual behavior.
- **Convulsions**, shaking, or jerking movements.
- **Coordination problems**, such as trouble walking or standing (poor balance).
- Unusual **sleepiness**, or you are unable to wake the child.
- **Eye problems**, such as trouble seeing, or one pupil (the dark part of the eye) larger than the other.
- A very bad **headache** which is getting worse.
- A **lump** on the child's head which is getting bigger.
- **Vomiting** which is forceful or constant.
- **Weakness** in an arm or a leg, or unable to move an arm or a leg.
- **Fever**, which is:
 - a rectal (by bottom) temperature of over 101°F (38.3°C), or
 - an oral (by mouth) temperature of over 100°F (37.8°C), or
 - an axillary (under the arm) temperature of over 99°F (37.2°C).
 - For infants under 3 months of age, a fever is a rectal temperature of over 100.4°F (38°C).

Special Instructions:

Activities:

Eating:

Medicine:

Other:

The information presented here is not intended to diagnose health problems or to take the place of professional medical care. If your child has persistent health problems or if you have further questions, please consult your health care provider.

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