

Closed Head Injury Instructions

Any head injury could be potentially serious. There is frequently no correlation between the apparent intensity or type of injury and the subsequent problems.

You should monitor your child's condition closely, especially for the first 24 hours after the injury. We recommend that, at a minimum, you re-evaluate your child every _____ hours during this period. This especially applies during the middle of the night when there will be less routine interaction.

Call us promptly if any of the following situations apply:

- loss of consciousness, even if only for a second
- vomiting, even if only once
- increasing irritability
- headache which does not significantly improve within 1 hour after giving Tylenol or Motrin
- increasing listlessness or lethargy
- any neurological changes including slurred speech, difficulty seeing, unstable gait, or unequal pupil size
- any significant cut, especially if the wound edges are not touching or if you have difficulty controlling the bleeding
- loose, painful, or discolored teeth
- recurrent runny nose that is not felt to be due to an illness which started prior to the injury or crying, especially if it occurs on only one side
- Any significant swelling, especially if it is increasing

You should also call if you have any concerns or notice anything unusual even if it is not listed above.