



## HEAD INJURY

\_\_\_\_\_ has had a minor head injury and it is safe for you to take him/her home.

This type of injury is very common in children and rarely causes any serious problems.

It is important to observe your child closely for the first 24 hours following injury as there is a very small chance of complication occurring.

If your child shows any signs of the following symptoms you should return immediately to the Children's Emergency Department or call your Family Doctor.

### The signs to watch for:

- Unusual sleepiness – your child is very drowsy or you can't wake them up completely
- Jerking movements of arms, legs or face – “a fit”
- Severe headache, that Paracetamol (Pamol, Panadol) does not relieve
- Vomiting – more than once after you leave Starship
- Confusion or unusual behaviour
- Any change in the way your child walks or uses their arms/legss
- Blurred vision or slurred speech

**IF YOU ARE VERY WORRIED ABOUT HOW YOUR CHILD  
LOOKS OR CANNOT WAKE YOUR CHILD  
DIAL AN AMBULANCE – DIAL 111**

**If you are taking your child home at night you can let them sleep but it is important to fully wake your child at these times:**




- If your child normally has a daytime sleep, let them sleep but you should wake and check how they are if they sleep more than 2 hours.
- Your child should be able to attend school, crèche, kindergarten or Kohanga Reo as usual.
- They may be tired / irritable or have difficulty concentrating for 2-3 days. If these problems carry on for more than a week you should see your GP.

**Any queries you may have, particularly throughout the night,  
over the next 24 hours, please phone us (09) 307 4902.  
Then continue to contact your GP for ongoing care of your child.**