



Head Injury Signs and Symptoms

This info sheet is to help you be prepared to recognize signs and symptoms of a head injury, which may not present until hours after the injury. Current guidelines in the care and management of a concussion do not recommend the use of Advil/Motrin (ibuprofen), Aleve (naproxen sodium), other NSAID or aspirin. It is ok to take Tylenol (acetaminophen) for symptoms, if needed.

If any of these signs or symptoms WORSEN over time, please contact a physician:

- Stiffening of the neck
- Mental confusion
- Nausea
- Irritability
- Changes in emotional status – mood swings
- Dizziness, poor balance or unsteadiness
- Abnormal drowsiness or sleepiness
- Continued ringing in the ears
- Slurring of speech

If any of the following symptoms appear, contact emergency medical services (911) immediately:

- Blood or yellowish/clear fluid from nose or ears
- Persistent vomiting
- Alterations in breathing patterns
- New Double or blurred vision
- Convulsions or seizures
- Weakness in either arm or leg
- Unequal pupils or uncontrolled eye movements
- Severe Headache
- Change in level of consciousness