**Head Injury Advice Card**

Children have many bangs to the head and it can be difficult to tell if they are serious or not. Most head injuries are not serious and simply result in a bump or bruise, but occasionally head injuries require medical attention.

Phone 999 for an ambulance or go straight to the nearest Accident and Emergency department if any of the following symptoms occur:

* Unconsciousness or lack of full consciousness (for example, problems keeping their eyes open).
* Any confusion (not knowing where they are, getting things muddled up).
* Any drowsiness (feeling sleepy) that goes on for longer than 1 hour when they would normally be wide awake.
* Any problems understanding or speaking.
* Any loss of balance or problems walking.
* Any weakness in one or both arms to legs.
* Any problems with eyesight
* Very painful headache that won’t go away.
* Two or more bouts of vomiting – being sick.
* Any fits (collapsing or passing out suddenly).
* Clear fluid coming out of the ear or nose.
* New bleeding from one or both ears

Further information from: Your GP or NHS Direct on 0845 46 47

[www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)