

HEAD INJURY INFORMATION

The severity of a head injury may range from **mild** (i.e., brief change in mental status or consciousness) to **severe** (i.e., an extended period of unconsciousness or memory loss after the injury). Most head injuries that occur are mild and are typically called concussions.

At the present time, there is **no evidence of serious or pending danger** from the patient's head injury. However, careful attention for the next 24-48 hours is advised.

The patient should be awakened every 2 hours for the next 24 hours.

Contact the patient's physician or go to the Emergency Department at once if the following occur:

- Excessive drowsiness
- Persistent vomiting
- Increasing or severe headache
- Confusion as to time, place, and name
- Decreased coordination or slurred speech
- Unusual behavior
- Leakage of fluid from the ear or nose