

THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC, P.C.

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Head Injury

Description:

Head injuries usually only harm the scalp. Big lumps can occur because of the ample blood supply to the scalp. These lumps are located outside of the skull and do not harm the brain. Small cuts can bleed a lot but usually only for a short while. We are most concerned about how your child acts after the injury.

Care of the Injury:

1. Observe your child's alertness. Call immediately if there is loss of consciousness.
2. If there is bleeding, cleanse the cut and apply pressure with a clean cloth or gauze pad to stop the bleeding.
3. If there is swelling, apply an ice pack to this area for several minutes.
4. Children are often sleepy after a head injury. You may allow your child to rest or even sleep if he or she is tired. Just check on your child from time to time to see how he or she is doing.
5. You may give your child an appropriate dose of acetaminophen (such as Tylenol) if he or she has a headache.

Call Us if the Following Events Occur:

- You think that your child needs stitches for a cut.
- Clear fluid or blood is coming from the nose or an ear.
- Your child develops a severe headache.
- Vomiting occurs 3 or more times after the injury.
- Your child complains of distorted vision.
- There is a difference in the size of the pupils of your child's eyes, or there are abnormal eye movements.
- Your child becomes difficult to arouse or acts confused. You have concerns that you want to discuss.

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