Head injury pathway





Clinical support tool for community pharmacists

Clinical findings	Green – low risk	Amber – intermediate risk	Red – high risk
Age			• <6 months
Mechanism of injury	Low risk i.e. fall from standing height		High risk i.e. fall from >standing height, RTC etc.
Conscious level	No LOC Cried immediately Alert and interacting normally		Any LOC Any drowsiness Any amnesia Post traumatic seizure
Vomiting	• 1 or less		• 2 or more (>10 mins apart)
Headache			Not settling with analgesia
Bruising/swelling	None or small/firm		• >5cm or boggy
Other			Additional parent/carer concerns Concerns about alcohol intoxication/drug use Straw coloured fluid from ear/nose Bruising around eyes or behind ears



Green Action

Provide Head injury safety netting advice

Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions/ advice given

Always consider safeguarding issues.



Red Action

Refer immediately to emergency care – consider whether 999 transfer or parent/taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity etc.

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