

Possible Brain Bleed in Children with Bleeding Disorders

This leaflet offers more information for parents and carers about how to recognise a possible brain bleed in a child with a bleeding disorder. If you have any further questions or concerns, please speak to the staff member in charge of your child's care.

Although this is rare, a brain bleed is treated as a serious emergency. It is important that parents and carers are aware of the potential signs and symptoms of such a bleed.

What are the signs and symptoms?

Any of the following signs and symptoms could be seen in any child following a head injury.

For young children:-

- Poor feeding
- Vomiting
- Irritability – prolonged crying or appearing in distress
- Sleepiness or lethargy – more than their usual pattern of sleep
- Abnormal movements, jerking, floppiness or stiffness – this could be seizure activity (fitting) **so call 999**
- Facial or head bruising
- Hot or cold temperature recordings – particularly if their hands and feet are cold with their body remaining warm
- Changes in their vision – if baby stops being able to fix and follow or if they are unable to open their eyes.

For older children:-

- Headaches
- Difficulty with speech
- Behavioural changes – especially abnormal movements or clumsiness
- Pins and needles.

Many of these signs and symptoms can be normal but a combination of the above could be significant. Often an intracranial bleed follows an injury to the head, however this may not always be the case.

What do I do if I am concerned about my child?

If you are concerned about your child having any of these symptoms, please contact the Haemophilia Team at St George's Hospital.

Contact us

Monday to Friday (8am to 4pm)	Paediatric Haemophilia CNS	020 8725 0763
Out of hours (including weekends and bank holidays)	Paediatric Haematology Registrar	020 8672 1255 and ask to “bleep” the Haematology Registrar

Additional services

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you on-the-spot advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or the care you have received. You can visit the PALS office between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday in the main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough wings (near the lift foyer).

Tel: 020 8725 2453 **Email:** pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk



NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health. **Web:** www.nhs.uk

NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones. **Tel:** 111

AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all of our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website (www.accessable.co.uk). The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.