

HEAD INJURIES - SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

DISCLAIMER:

*The information contained in this document has been compiled from sources believed to be reliable at the time and is presented here as a study aid and for general information use only. This information is not intended to **replace** or **supercede** the information or procedures outlined in your first aid textbook, other officially issued study materials or government published acts or legislative documents.*

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, the authors are not responsible for any loss, liability, damage or injury that may be suffered or incurred by any person in connection with the information contained on this site, or by anyone who receives first aid treatment from a reader or user of this information.

Head injury - Serious injury of the head where the brain function is or may be affected.

Head injury - Signs & Symptoms

- Deformed skull
- Swollen, bruised or bleeding scalp
- Straw-coloured fluid or blood coming from the nose or ears
- Bruising below the eyes or behind the ears
- Nausea vomiting, especially in kids
- Confused, dazed
- Semi-conscious or unconscious
- Stopped breathing
- Very slow pulse rate
- Pupils are of unequal size
- Pain at the injury site
- Weakness or paralysis of the arms and/or legs
- Pain when swallowing or moving the jaw
- Wounds in the mouth
- Knocked-out teeth
- Shock
- Convulsions

Skull fractures - result of direct force or an indirect force that is transmitted through the bones. Fractures may occur in the cranium, at the base of the skull, or in the face. Facial fractures include the nose, the bones around the eyes, the upper jaw and lower jaw. Fractures of the jaw are often complicated by wounds inside the mouth.