



Head Injuries

Concussion

Recognition	Treatment
Possibly unconscious initially but then recovers	If unconscious carry out the primary survey and place in the recovery position
Short term memory loss	Reassure the casualty
Confusion & irritability	Ensure the casualty is monitored for any signs of deterioration for the next 24 hrs
Pale, cold and clammy skin	Advise them to see a doctor
Mild generalised headache	Look for and treat any other injuries
Rapid weak pulse	If you are unsure or the casualty starts to deteriorate call 999
Possible nausea or vomiting	
Shallow or normal breathing	

Cerebral Compression

Recognition	Treatment
May have received a recent head injury	If conscious, lay down with head and shoulders raised
Levels of response deteriorate	If unconscious carry out the primary survey and place in the recovery position
Intense headache	
Flushed, dry skin	Reassure the casualty
Deep, noisy, slow breathing	Monitor the casualty and be prepared to resuscitate
Slow, strong pulse	
One or both pupils dilate	Call 999 immediately
May start to fit	



Fractured Skull

Recognition	Treatment
May be suffering from concussion or compression so those signs and symptoms may be present	If conscious, lay down with head kept still, there could be a neck injury
Bleeding, swelling or bruising on the head	If unconscious carry out the primary survey and place in the recovery position
Soft area or depression on the head	Reassure the casualty
Bruising or swelling behind the ears	Dress any open wound on the scalp with gentle pressure
Bleeding or clear/straw coloured fluid coming from ears or nose	Monitor the casualty and be prepared to resuscitate
Bruising around one or both eyes	Don't try to stop bleeding from an ear, just dress lightly
Deformity to the head	
Bleeding in the whites of the eyes	Call 999 immediately

Stroke

Recognition	Treatment
<b>Facial Weakness</b> - Can the person smile? Any facial droop?	If conscious, lay down with head and shoulders raised
<b>Arm Weakness</b> - Can they raise both arms in front of them?	If unconscious place in the recovery position
<b>Speech Problems</b> - Can they speak clearly?	Reassure the casualty
Sudden numbness of the face or one side of the body	Monitor the casualty and be prepared to resuscitate
Unequal pupils	
Loss of balance or coordination	Call 999 immediately
Sudden severe headache	