Scalp Hematoma

A bruise of the scalp causes swelling from an accumulation of blood in the area of the injury. This is a common problem. This problem is also called a scalp hematoma. This normally is not serious. Usually a scalp hematoma causes only mild local pain or headache. It usually disappears after 2-3 days with proper treatment.

You should apply ice packs to the swollen area for 20-30 minutes every 2-3 hours until the swelling improves. Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain and discomfort as directed by your caregiver. It is best to avoid aspirin because this may increase bleeding. You may have a mild headache, slight dizziness, nausea, or weakness for the next few days. This usually clears up with rest.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF YOU DEVELOP:

- Severe pain or headache, unrelieved by medicine.
- Unusual sleepiness, confusion, personality changes, or difficulty with coordination or walking.
- A persistent nose bleed, double or blurred vision, or unusual drainage from the nose or ear.
- Numbness or weakness in the limbs.

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