

Any child or teenager with symptoms that are unusual for him or her, or are persistent or unexplained, should be seen by a GP. If you are worried, make an appointment with your doctor.

Please remember any child or teenager needing urgent medical help should be taken to the nearest emergency department or dial 999.

10 children and teenagers are diagnosed with a brain tumour every week in the UK. That's more than one a day.

Early diagnosis of brain tumours can save lives.

HeadSmart is funded and promoted by The Brain Tumour Charity and run in partnership with the Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre (CBTRC) and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH).

If you would like to talk to someone about brain tumours, please contact the Information and Support Line at The Brain Tumour Charity on:

Freephone

0800 800 0004

or email

support@thebraintumourcharity.org

headsmart.org.uk

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HEAD SMART

EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF BRAIN TUMOURS

symptoms card

This card is designed to help you know and spot the signs and symptoms of brain tumours in children and teenagers.

BABIES

UNDER 5 YEARS



Persistent/recurrent vomiting



Balance/co-ordination/
walking problems



Abnormal eye movements
or suspected loss of vision*



Behaviour change,
particularly lethargy



Fits or seizures (not with a fever)



Abnormal head position such
as wry neck, head tilt or stiff neck*



Increasing head circumference
(crossing centiles)

1 symptom: see GP

2+ symptoms: ask GP for an urgent referral

*Starred symptoms: see GP and Optician



CHILDREN

5 - 11 YEARS



Persistent/recurrent headache*



Persistent/recurrent vomiting



Balance/co-ordination/
walking problems



Abnormal eye movements*



Blurred or double vision/
loss of vision*



Behaviour change



Fits or seizures



Abnormal head position such
as wry neck, head tilt or stiff neck*

1 symptom: see GP

2+ symptoms: ask GP for an urgent referral

*Starred symptoms: see GP and Optician



TEENS

12 - 18 YEARS



Persistent/recurrent headache*



Persistent/recurrent vomiting



Balance/co-ordination/
walking problems



Abnormal eye movements*



Blurred or double vision/
loss of vision*



Behaviour change



Fits or seizures



Delayed or
arrested puberty

1 symptom: see GP

2+ symptoms: ask GP for an urgent referral

*Starred symptoms: see GP and Optician

