

Calderdale and Huddersfield **NHS**



NHS Foundation Trust

Emergency Department Advice Sheet - Chest Injuries

Chest Injuries

Injuries to the chest wall can be very painful and often take several weeks to get better. Chest injuries may include broken or bruised ribs or a broken breast bone (sternum). These injuries take 3-6 weeks to heel and can be painful for several months.

Coughing and breathing can be painful but are important to aid recovery.

Treatment

The treatment of all minor chest injuries is regular painkillers. Taking regular painkillers rather than waiting until the pain is severe allows regular deep breaths and coughing which are important for recovery.

Regular deep breathing is important, try to take 5 deep breaths every hour.

Cough if you need to as it is important to clear any mucus despite the pain, supporting the injured area with your hand may help with the pain associated with coughing.

Keep mobile as this will help improve your breathing function

Avoid smoking as this increases your risk of developing and infection.

Keep your shoulders moving with light activities.

Things to look out for

Return to the Emergency Department if you develop any of the symptoms below:

- Become short of breath
- Start coughing excessively with green, yellow or blood stained sputum
- Become unwell with a fever

Tell us your views

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your treatment and care, please speak to a senior member of staff or to the nurse looking after you. The matrons are also available during normal working hours and they welcome your views.

Friends and Family Test

Whatever your experience you can give feedback by answering the Friends & Family test question - How likely are you to recommend our A&E Department to family and friends if they needed similar care or treatment?

This can be completed online at http://surveys.this.nhs.uk using tag name **chftae** or by completing the form available within the department.

Patient Discharge Information – Chest Injuries

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact:

Manager Emergency Department Huddersfield Royal Infirmary Telephone No: 01484 342396

www.cht.nhs.uk

or Calderdale Royal Hospital Telephone No: Halifax: 01422 222325 www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Amennyiben ezt az információt más formátumban vagy nyelven szeretné megkapni, vegye fel a kapcsolatot fenti részlegünkkel.

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacje lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو می معلومات کس اور فار میٹ مازبان می درکار بوں، تو برائے مہرباری مندرجہ بالا شعبے می بم سے رابطہ کری.