

Caring for a child with a heart condition

Information for patients, parents and guardians

Call 999 if your child:

- has a sudden collapse and is unresponsive
- suddenly becomes very unwell

These emergency situations are uncommon, but it is important to know what to do if they happen. If you would like basic life support training before you go home, please speak to the nurse looking after your child.

Call E1 Ocean ward on 023 8120 6470 if your child is:

- blue around their lips and face
- breathing faster, harder or in an unusual way
- more unsettled than usual or more sleepy than usual
- feeding less, or more sweaty or breathlessness when they feed
- having fewer wet nappies
- paler than normal
- sweating more
- puffy around their face
- unusually cool on their arms and legs when they are dressed
- vomiting or having diarrhoea
- not gaining weight as they should
- having a persistently high temperature

The doctor on call or cardiac nurse specialist will recommend the best course of action.

If we advise you to take your child to see another health professional, take a copy of their discharge letter or recent clinic letter with you, as this will contain important information.

If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audiotape, please telephone **023 8120 4688** for help.

www.uhs.nhs.uk/childrenshospital

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