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Concussion Signs and symptoms

The signs and symptoms of a concussion can be subtle and may not appear immediately. Symptoms typically last for days, however in some cases, may last weeks or longer.

Your behavior, mental ability and physical skills all are linked to specific areas of your brain. Each concussion is unique to the person who receives it. Given the number of potential combinations of injuries that can occur to the head, and the various parts of the brain that can be affected, each individual may demonstrate different combinations of signs and symptoms. The severity and side effects of a head injury depend on which area of your brain was most affected.

The following lists general signs and symptoms that are commonly associated with a concussion.

Immediate signs and symptoms of a concussion may include:

- Confusion
- Amnesia (loss of memory, forgetfulness)
- Headache
- Loss of consciousness
- Ringing in the ears (tinnitus)
- Drowsiness
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Unequal pupil size
- Convulsions
- Unusual eye movements
- Slurred speech

Delayed signs and symptoms may include:

- Irritability
- Headaches
- Depression
- Sleep disturbances, including insomnia or difficulty waking
- Fatigue
- Poor concentration
- Trouble with memory
- Getting lost or becoming easily confused
- Increased sensitivity to sounds, lights and distractions
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Difficulty with gait or in coordinating use of limbs