Does your child have a HEAD INJURY?
CAT scans are not always necessary.

Toddlers younger than 2 years
Your child might need a CAT scan if the following criteria are present. Your doctor can help you determine this.

- The injury was CAUSED BY A FORCEFUL IMPACT, such as a fall from more than 3 feet or a high speed car accident.
- Your child is PERSISTENTLY CONFUSED or not acting normally.
- Your child LOST CONSCIOUSNESS (passed out) for more than 5 seconds.
- Your child HAS A LARGE BUMP ("goose egg") anywhere other than their forehead.

The reduction of CAT scans helps minimize the risk of unnecessary radiation exposure.

Developed by the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians and supported in part by a Chapter Grant from the American College of Emergency Physicians.
Does your child have a **HEAD INJURY**?

**CAT scans are not always necessary.**

**Children**

2 years and older

Your child might need a CAT scan if the following criteria are present. Your doctor can help you determine this.

- The injury was **CAUSED BY A FORCEFUL IMPACT**, such as a fall from more than 3 feet or a high speed car accident.
- Your child is **PERSISTENTLY CONFUSED** or not acting normally.
- Your child has **SEVERE BRUISING** on the skull, around the eyes, behind the ears, or bleeding.
- Your child **LOST CONSCIOUSNESS** (passed out) for any period of time.
- Your child **VOMITS**
- Your child has a **SEVERE HEADACHE**

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