

Further information can be obtained from:

NHS 111	Dial 111
Or contact your GP	
Bluebell Ward, Lister Hospital, Stevenage	01438 284008
Children's Day Services, Lister (Plastics Dressing Clinic)	01438 286315
Children's A&E, Lister	01438 284333
QEII Urgent Care Centre, Welwyn Garden City	01707 247549
Lister Community Children's Nurses	01438 284012
QEII Community Children's Nurses	01438 288370
Patient Advice and Liaison Service	01438 285811

The information in this leaflet was produced with reference to www.cks.nhs.uk and Plastic Surgery Team, Lister Hospital.

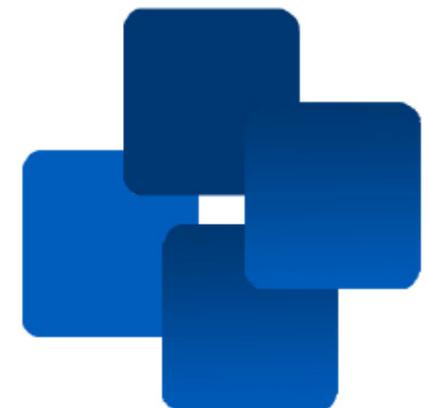
www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk

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You can request this information in a different format or another language.

Fingertip Injury

Child Health Patient Information Leaflet



Introduction

The purpose of this leaflet is to help you manage your child's fingertip injury.

What is a fingertip injury?

Fingertip injuries are commonly caused by crushing or laceration with a sharp object. These injuries can involve displacement of the nail/nail bed. Occasionally there may be an accumulation of blood under the nail (subungual haematoma) which would need to be drained in A&E.

Treatment

Many injuries will need to be treated in hospital and may even require surgery to repair the wound. At the hospital, paracetamol or other painkillers will be given to your child to relieve pain. You can continue this at home.

Aftercare

Parents should be aware that recovery from a fingertip injury varies, depending on the severity of the injury. In some cases physiotherapy may be required together with the use of a hand splint. Depending on the required management for the injury you will be given advice from the physiotherapist and/or occupational therapist.

Pain Management

The injury will be painful and your child will require painkillers. The medical and nursing staff in the Children's A&E will advise you regarding doses and types of painkillers to give your child. For certain injuries your child may need to be prescribed painkillers that cannot be purchased at the chemist.

Advice on caring for the injury at home.

- If your child has a dressing to cover the wound ;
- Keep it dry and as clean as possible.
- Contact Children's A&E if the dressing becomes wet or falls off.
- Encourage exercise of all the fingers unless otherwise advised.
- Keep affected hand elevated to reduce excessive swelling.
- Avoid playing with sand and water.

If there is intolerable oozing, bleeding or pain, contact Children's A&E immediately.