Follow-up care

Every child will be offered a follow-up appointment 4–6 weeks after leaving hospital. This is to discuss how the recovery process is going and any potential complications you might be concerned about.

All children under 16 should have a hearing test as soon as possible or within four weeks of being well enough to test.

If these appointments have not been arranged by the hospital, ask your GP to arrange them for you. It is also a good idea to visit your child's GP, so they can see how your child is getting on and be aware of any concerns or questions you may have.

Some parents are so relieved to get their child home from hospital that they do not want the upset of having to take their child back again for further appointments, but missing the opportunity for follow-up with the hospital can put your child at a disadvantage. Some after-effects can also be subtle and hard to identify, so you may think they have made a complete recovery and not attend, but it is important that any problems are recognised early and treated as soon as possible.

Questions for follow-up

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You can download more of these pages online: www.meningitisnow.org/myjournal or www.meningitis.org/After-effects-children