Issues and concerns after discharge

It can take many months to recover from meningitis and septicaemia, although some children are back to their normal activities within a matter of weeks.

Many parents find leaving hospital an anxious time because doctors are no longer on hand to answer questions. If you have any concerns about your child after discharge from hospital, write them down below. Please read page 11 in 'Your guide' to get an idea about common concerns that parents have after discharge. Bring this information with you to your child's 4-6 week review so that you can discuss these notes with the paediatrician.

You know your child best, never be afraid to speak up. If you are concerned for any reason do not wait for the follow-up appointment. You can speak to your child's GP at any time.

In particular, if your child develops a fever, rash or limb pain within two weeks of being discharged from hospital then this needs urgent medical attention.

All health professionals should be aware of the possible late development of after-effects. If you are concerned about your child's recovery or possible complications at any time, speak to your GP or ask to be referred back to the hospital where your child was cared for.

Helplines: Meningitis Now 0808 80 10 388 / Meningitis Research Foundation 080 8800 3344

Notes

Include dates. This will help others understand what has been happening.

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

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