

WHEN SHOULD YOU GO TO A&E?

Admission-Attendance to A&E Departments should only include patients who have suffered :-

- Loss of consciousness/ serious head injury
- Heavy blood loss
- Suspected broken bones or dislocation
- Persistent chest pain for 15 minutes or more
- Difficulty breathing
- Overdose, ingestion or poisoning
- Seizures lasting longer than five minutes
- Suspected stroke (CVA) paralysis down one side, facial drop, slurred speech
- Life threatening conditions - wounds

These can be life threatening and need urgent attention. (**In an Emergency call 999**).

Patients with other ailments such as coughs, colds, flu like symptoms, headaches, joint pains, abdominal or muscle pains or spasms, cuts, sprains and grazes **should be seen at their GP's surgery**. **If your GP surgery is closed** and it cannot wait until your surgery re-opens then you could attend a local minor injuries unit or walk-in centres. **IF IN DOUBT, CALL YOUR GP SURGERY OR NHS DIRECT.**