



Name	Name of the shunt	
Surname	Adjustable shunt : YES / NO	
Hospital	Type of shunt : VP Shunt / VA Shunt / Other	
Neurosurgeon	Date of Adjustment	Set Value / Pressure Value
MD phone number		
Date of surgery : ____ / ____ / ____		

You have been operated on for **hydrocephalus**, either by placing a **cerebrospinal fluid draining shunt valve**, or you have had **ventriculocisternostomy** surgery.

If you don't already have your Patient Data Card, get one as soon as possible from your current neurosurgeon, along with any hospitalization and surgery reports and CD containing any medical imaging.

Plan ahead and be prepared if you are travelling abroad:

- Ensure that you carry, on your person at all times, your Patient Data Card together with this treatment and emergency care form, completed with the latest updates
- Note the address and telephone number of the nearest neurosurgical unit to your place of residence abroad

What you should do if you suspect that your shunt or ventriculocisternostomy is dysfunctional :

*All informations marked in **red** must be communicated during your call*

Step one: Correctly identify the symptoms

You or your child have one or more of the following symptoms:

Headaches, nausea, vomiting, blurred or **double vision**, extreme tiredness, **drowsiness**, lethargy and poor concentration, **bulging fontanelle** (baby), **epileptic seizures**.

Caution: Some of these symptoms may be masked by certain medications.

Step two: Immediately call the nearest neurosurgery unit or the emergency services

If you experience one or more of the above symptoms, immediately call:

- the nearest neurosurgery unit (ask to talk to the neurosurgeon on-call 24 hours a day)
- the emergency services in case of extreme urgency (**drowsiness, epilepsy**)

When calling, specify:

- that you have a **draining shunt valve for cerebrospinal fluid or have had a ventriculocisternostomy**. *If you only say "valve", the emergency services could be led to thinking that you mean a heart valve*
- the signs or symptoms identified
- whether you are currently taking medications

The doctor shall then decide what to do :

- stay home and monitor the situation
- consult a GP
- go to the nearest neurosurgery unit that can take you
- go to the nearest emergency room
- wait for an ambulance or a paramedic team

In any case, make sure you have as much information as possible with you :

- show your Patient Data Card or this care form completed with the latest updates
- provide your surgery and hospitalization reports and corresponding CD with medical imaging
- give the contact details of the hospital and neurosurgeon treating you, as they may need to contact them