

Your typical questions answered:

Does this mean accident and emergency at the University Hospital of Hartlepool is closing?

On 2 August 2011 the department is closing but patients will still be treated:

- adults and children with less serious injuries and illnesses should call NHS 111 and if appropriate will be made an appointment at either Peterlee or Seaham Urgent Care Centre, whichever is nearest.
- seriously ill adults will be taken to the emergency assessment unit at the University Hospital of Hartlepool.
- seriously ill children will be taken to the University Hospital of North Tees as they are now.
- seriously injured adults and children will be taken to the University Hospital of North Tees as they are now.

Is this about saving money?

No, the *momentum: pathways to healthcare programme* is about providing as many services as possible in or closer to people's homes with people only going to hospital when they really need to. Changing accident and emergency services in this way will also mean we can improve safety and quality.

The programme is still committed to building a new hospital for our area and that has always been the plan.

The other things, like moving services out of hospital and changing the ways services are provided have to be in place first and this is why things are changing.

Most services aren't moving out of Hartlepool, they are just being provided in a different place.

If you are not sure where you should go please contact the NHS 111 service.

For more information about these changes: visit www.momentum.nhs.uk or email communications@nth.nhs.uk

IMPORTANT NEWS

ABOUT LOCAL A&E SERVICES

For residents of **Easington** and **Peterlee**

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ABOUT LOCAL A&E SERVICES

The University Hospital of Hartlepool A&E unit closes on 2 August 2011 but patients will still receive treatment locally for most illnesses and injuries.

Please read this leaflet to ensure you are aware of what to do in the case of an injury or illness for adults and children.

If you think an illness or injury is serious then do not hesitate to call 999 straight away.

On this leaflet you will see what is generally classed as serious or not.

We have a question and answer page in this leaflet and other information can be found on our website:

www.momentum.nhs.uk

CALL 999

IF YOU OR A PERSON:

- ✓ has persistent severe chest pain
- ✓ has breathing difficulties
- ✓ has severe loss of blood
- ✓ has suffered severe trauma e.g. a head injury
- ✓ or if a person is unconscious

CALL YOUR GP OR NHS 111

IF YOU OR A PERSON:

- ✓ has an infection or rash
- ✓ has a stomach upset
- ✓ has cuts and bruises
- ✓ has a burn, strain or sprain
- ✓ has a fracture (broken bone) and/or laceration (deep cut) and can walk without severe pain



If you live in Easington or Peterlee Call your GP or NHS 111 who will assess you and direct you to the local service that can help you best.