Nose Injuries in Children

When a child injures their nose there is often swelling of the nose and tissues around it. It can be difficult to tell if an injury has occurred that requires treatment until the swelling has settled. The younger your child, the less likely it is that they will have broken their nose, as most of it is made of cartilage. The bony part increases in size as they get older. Whether a bone has been broken or not, it is important to have your child reviewed if you think their nose has changed shape. Try and avoid further injury to your child's nose, especially in the first 2-3 weeks after this injury.

Advice:-

- Xrays of the nose are not necessary
- The swelling will improve over the next 3-4 days
- If you are concerned that your child’s nose is not straight please return to the emergency department for a doctor to review your child and refer on to the ENT clinic if necessary
- It is important that if you are worried about your child’s nose not being straight that you are seen again in the emergency department within a week of your child’s injury. Please return between 9am and 1pm Monday to Friday. If treatment is required, it is better to arrange this before the nose has healed in its altered position.