



Cauda Equina Syndrome

Many patients have a combination of back pain, leg pain, leg numbness and weakness. These symptoms can be distressing for you but don't necessarily require emergency medical attention. A rare but serious back condition is Cauda Equina Syndrome which can lead to permanent damage or disability and will need to be seen by an Emergency Spinal Team. If you develop any combination of the warning signs on the other side of the card please seek medical attention immediately.

Cauda Equina Syndrome warning symptoms

If you develop any combination of the warning signs below please seek medical attention immediately:

- Loss of feeling/pins and needles between your inner thighs or genitals
- Numbness in or around your back passage or buttocks
- Altered feeling when using toilet paper to wipe yourself
- Increasing difficulty when you try to start urinating
- Loss of sensation when you pass urine
- Loss of sensation when you pass bowel movements
- Leaking urine or inability to stop your flow of urine
- Leaking or inability to stop bowel movement
- Change in ability to achieve an erection or ejaculate
- Loss of sensation in genitals during sexual intercourse
- Increasing loss of control of both legs, feeling like you are tripping or stumbling

