



..... has hydrocephalus treated by a shunt / ventriculostomy (etv) (delete as appropriate). Occasionally a shunt or etv can malfunction.

If things go wrong advice needs to be sought from a specialist neurosurgical unit within 4 hours of acute symptoms developing.

What symptoms should be looked for?

Symptoms can vary considerably between individuals. Previous personal experience of a shunt problem is usually a reliable guide as to what to look for.

Find out how to
manage
hydrocephalus at
shinecharity.org.uk

Possible signs of **acute** shunt/etv malfunction may include:

- Drowsiness
- Vomiting
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Photophobia (sensitivity to light) and other visual disturbances
- Seizures

Possible signs of **chronic** shunt/etv malfunction may include:

- Fatigue
- General Malaise
- Visuo-perceptual problems
- Behavioural changes
- Decline in academic performance
- Being "just not right" from the carers point of view.



Sometimes shunts/etvs can malfunction over a longer period of time - if you notice changes -

“THINK SHUNT”

My local neurosurgical unit is:

And can be reached on:

Tel no:

Your Support and Development Worker is:

Shine, 42 Park Road,
Peterborough, PE1 2UQ
T: 01733 555988
E: info@shinecharity.org.uk
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Shine

Spina bifida • Hydrocephalus
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