**TREATMENT GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH STAFF**

**HEAD INJURY (Closed Head Trauma)**

Authorized health and wellness staff may treat a head injury, which is a common problem with the potential for rare, but serious complications, as follows:

1. Observation is key. Keep the student at the health and wellness center for at least one hour after head injury. Monitor vital signs and neurological status.
2. Call 911 and/or immediately transport patient to the hospital if consciousness is lost or any of these six findings are present: (1) ataxia, (2) double vision/loss of vision/altered visual fields, (3) progressive incapacitating headache, (4) repetitive projectile vomiting, (5) declining level of alertness/consciousness or inability to arouse, (6) change in mood and increased combativeness.
3. The use of medication is discouraged during the initial observation period. Acetaminophen 650-1000 mg [MDD 4 g] **or** ibuprofen 400-600 mg [MDD 2400 mg] may be administered if the patient complains of headache. No other analgesic or psychotropic medication should be given. If the patient complains of severe pain requiring narcotic medications, refer to the clinician.

# WHEN TO REFER TO THE CENTER PHYSICIAN

* If the headache is progressively worse and/or does not respond to acetaminophen or ibuprofen in appropriate doses