

# Hypovolemic shock

Hypovolemic [shock](#), also known as [hemorrhagic shock](#), is a life-threatening condition that results when you lose more than 20 percent (one-fifth) of your body's blood or fluid supply.

## Epidemiology

Hypovolemic shock is the most common type of shock, with very young children and older adults being the most susceptible.

## Etiology

Hypovolemic shock results from significant and sudden blood or fluid losses within your body. Blood loss of this magnitude can occur because of:

bleeding from serious cuts or wounds

bleeding from blunt traumatic injuries due to accidents

internal bleeding from abdominal organs or ruptured ectopic pregnancy

bleeding from the digestive tract

significant vaginal bleeding

In addition to actual blood loss, the loss of body fluids can cause a decrease in blood volume. This can occur in cases of:

excessive or prolonged diarrhea severe burns protracted and excessive vomiting excessive sweating  
Blood carries oxygen and other essential substances to your organs and tissues. When heavy bleeding occurs, there is not enough blood in circulation for the heart to be an effective pump. Once your body loses these substances faster than it can replace them, organs in your body begin to shut down and the symptoms of shock occur. Blood pressure plummets, which can be life-threatening.

## Clinical Features

First sign usually [tachycardia](#).

The symptoms of hypovolemic shock vary with the severity of the fluid or blood loss. However, all symptoms of shock are life-threatening and need emergency medical treatment.

Internal bleeding symptoms may be hard to recognize until the symptoms of shock appear, but external bleeding will be visible.

Symptoms of hemorrhagic shock may not appear immediately.

Older adults may not experience these symptoms until the shock progresses significantly.

Some symptoms are more urgent than others.

Mild symptoms can include:

headache fatigue nausea profuse sweating dizziness Severe symptoms Severe symptoms, which must be taken seriously and warrant emergency medical attention, include:

cold or clammy skin pale skin rapid, shallow breathing rapid heart rate little or no urine output confusion weakness weak pulse blue lips and fingernails lightheadedness loss of consciousness The sign of external hemorrhaging is visible, profuse bleeding from a body site or area of injury.

Signs and symptoms of internal hemorrhaging include:

abdominal pain blood in the stool black, tarry stool (melena) blood in the urine vomiting blood chest pain abdominal swelling While some symptoms like abdominal pain and sweating can point to something less urgent like a stomach virus, you should seek immediate medical attention when seeing groupings of these symptoms together. This is especially true for the more serious symptoms. The longer you wait, the more damage can be done to your tissues and organs.

## Treatment

see [Shock treatment](#).

## Outcome

Multiple trauma (MT) associated with hemorrhagic shock (HS) might lead to [cerebral hypoperfusion](#) and brain damage.

Hypovolemic shock can lead to organ failure.

From:

<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - **Neurosurgery Wiki**

Permanent link:

[https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=hypovolemic\\_shock](https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=hypovolemic_shock)

Last update: **2024/06/07 02:59**

