

Kids swallowing batteries increasing

By [Gail Huff](#)

May 14, 2012 - 01:23 pm

[8 Comments](#)

A new study finds there's a growing danger found in everyday electronic devices. The study reports that the number of cases of children rushed to emergency rooms after swallowing button-sized batteries has doubled in the last 20 years.

The study, from the journal *Pediatrics*, finds that about 65,000 kids have been taken to emergency rooms after swallowing buttons, putting them into their ears or noses.

Most of the children are 5 or younger. The relatively new 3 volt 20 mm lithium batteries are the likely culprit.

One reason these hospital visits have increased 118% is because the button batteries power things all over the house now, from calculators to remote car keys to kids toys.

One little boy, Max removed one from the family's TV clicker. And he nearly died after swallowing it. He was fortunate, doctors were able to remove it during emergency surgery.

At the National Capital Poison Center, officials tell parents to treat batteries like medication. Keep them locked up, out of children's reach. Lock up battery compartments, so children can't get them.

Officials at the Poison Center are asking government regulatory authorities to require a screw closure on all household items that have battery compartments - to make them childproof.

While some kids pass the batteries through their systems harmlessly, others can get the batteries lodged in their throats, where they can begin to erode the lining of the esophagus within two hours, according to [ABC News](#).

Here are some tips from ABC News:

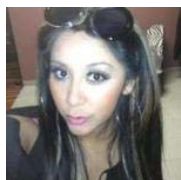
**If you see your child drooling, having difficulty swallowing, or vomiting, take him or her to the emergency department to get*

**Do not second guess whether anything was ingested. Leave that to the emergency room doctors to determine. Time is critical ingestions.*

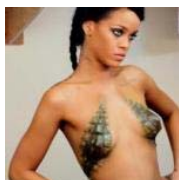
**If children are not taken to the operating room within two hours, the outcomes could be fatal.*

Would you like to contribute to this story? [Join the discussion.](#)

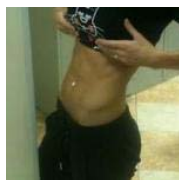
You may also like



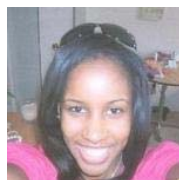
Snooki: Pregnant, no-tan look draws much positive feedback



Rihanna topless video shoot



'Thinspiration' pictures spread on Pinterest



Michael Johnson arrested in Phylicia Barnes murder



Kim Kardashian, naked, fries an egg -- but only allegedly

Pow

Recommended For You

[Prince George's County taking on toughest neighborhoods](#) (Local Headlines - ABC 7 News)

[Bristol Palin's Views on Gay Marriage Are Full of 'Glee'](#) (The Stir By CafeMom)

[Roland Thomas Smith II, Spotsylvania man arrested for allegedly stabbing girlfriend](#) (Local Headlines - ABC 7 News)

[Rihanna: 'Where Have you Been' video quite the sexy production](#) (Local Headlines - ABC 7 News)

Advertisement

[Want to advertise online?](#)

Try Google AdWords to reach the right customers at the right time

www.Google.com/AdWords

Advertisement

More in "Health"

VIRGINIA



Loudoun County sees spike in homelessness

CRIME



VIDEO: Kuron Hunt murder: Person of interest ID'd

ENTERTAINMENT



Arch Campbell on the Dictator

ENTERTAINMENT



Jeopardy! in D.C.: Celebrities speak with ABC7

MARYLAND



911 operators: 'Butt dials' take time from real emergencies

TRANSPOR



Loudoun resident: Silver Lii

