

# Button Battery Task Force

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[aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Pages/Button-Battery.aspx](http://aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/Pages/Button-Battery.aspx)

## Button Battery Task Force

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### The Hazards of Button Batteries

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More than 3,500 incidents of button battery ingestion are reported to U.S. poison control centers each year, and these incidents may be vastly under-reported. The number of children with serious injury or death more than quadrupled in the past five years between 2006 and 2010, compared to the five years prior.

The most serious injuries are usually associated with 20 mm diameter batteries, about the size of a nickel, because they are likely to get lodged in a small child's esophagus. If a coin cell lithium battery becomes lodged in the esophagus it can cause tissue injury and necrosis within hours, leading to perforation or death if not removed urgently.

Unfortunately, these batteries are easily accessible to children via common household products, such as small remote controls, garage door openers, bathroom scales, cell phones, flameless candles, watches, cameras, and digital thermometers. Parents and caregivers are urged to keep these devices out of reach and to take the child directly to the emergency department if the child exhibits symptoms such as wheezing, drooling, belly or chest pain, coughing, gagging, or choking. Call the National Battery Ingestion Hotline at 800-498-8666 with any questions.



# BUTTON BATTERY

## INJURIES IN CHILDREN



More than

# 2,500

children (under age 18) ingest button batteries every year in the U.S.

Button batteries are found in many household electronic devices such as **remote controls, flameless candles, bathroom scales, and numerous other household devices.**



Button batteries can cause severe tissue burns in as little as **2 hours** and can cause life-long injuries.



If you suspect that your child has swallowed a button battery or placed one in the nose or ear then

**immediately** get them to the nearest **emergency room.**



Call the **National Battery Ingestion Hotline** with any questions,

**800-498-8666.**



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## Button Battery Task Force: Mission Statement

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A collaborative effort of representatives from relevant organizations in industry, medicine, public health and government to develop, coordinate and implement strategies to reduce the incidence of button battery ingestion injuries in children.

American Academy  
of Pediatrics



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### **Task Force Meeting Minutes**

October 2019 Minutes

May 2019 Minutes



## Professional Resources

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- Coin-size lithium batteries can cause serious injury, death in a matter of hours if swallowed
- Emerging Battery-Ingestion Hazard: Clinical Implications
- National Capital Poison Center
- Pediatric Battery-Related Emergency Department Visits in the United States, 1990-2009
- Preventing Battery Ingestions: An Analysis of 8658 Cases
- Resident Advocacy to Mitigate Hazards of Button Battery Ingestions
- Sample Hospital Protocols for Removal of Button Batteries
- Emmett's Story at Safe Kids Worldwide