

## Symptoms

The symptoms caused from swallowing a button battery are not unique and can look like other illnesses.

Symptoms may include chest pain, coughing, vomiting, trouble swallowing, etc.

## Urgent action needed

If you think your child has swallowed or inserted a button battery, don't wait for them to show symptoms.

**CALL THE POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE URGENTLY FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON WHAT TO DO 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS**



**13 11 26**

**In an emergency situation, CALL 000 FOR AN AMBULANCE.**



**For more information about button batteries and how to make your home safe, contact:**

**Kidsafe SA**  
(08) 8161 6318  
[www.kidsafesa.com.au](http://www.kidsafesa.com.au)

**SA Health: Public Health Services**  
(08) 8226 7100  
Poisoning prevention around the home  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)

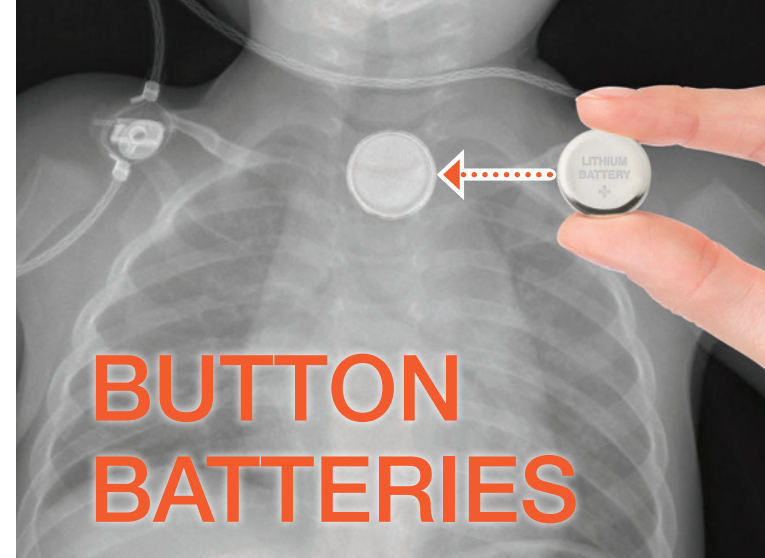
**Poisons Information Centre**  
13 11 26

**In an emergency situation, CALL 000 FOR AN AMBULANCE**



Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

November 2016



## BUTTON BATTERIES

### Did you know...

If swallowed, button batteries can get stuck in a child's throat and burn through the oesophagus in less than 2 hours. This burning can lead to serious injury requiring surgery, or death.

If you think your child has swallowed or inserted a button battery, don't wait for them to show symptoms.

**CALL THE POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE URGENTLY FOR EXPERT ADVICE ON WHAT TO DO 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS**



**13 11 26**

**In an emergency situation, CALL 000 FOR AN AMBULANCE.**



# Button batteries are extremely dangerous

Button batteries can get stuck in a child's throat without blocking their airway. You may not even know that it's in there.

20 children go to hospital every week in Australia suspected of swallowing a button battery.

## Common items button batteries are found in



watch



car remote



thermometer



calculator



torch keyring



musical card & other novelty items



remote



fake candle



kitchen scales



hearing aid

## Prevention



Look for items with button batteries



Keep items & loose batteries out of reach of children



Secure the battery compartment



Dispose of them immediately and safely

## Button battery safety checklist for parents and carers

- Have you checked your home for button batteries and items that use them?
- Have you checked that the button battery compartment of all items that use button batteries is tightly secured?
- Do you store button batteries and items that use them out of the reach of young children?
- Do you keep hearing aids and batteries separate to any medications or lollies?
- Do you always dispose of batteries immediately and safely? *Batteries with no charge are still dangerous to children.*
- Do you check novelty items and toys such as flashing jewellery/clothes given to your children for button batteries?
- Have you entered the phone number of the **Poisons Information Centre** into your mobile phone? **13 11 26**

**Adults can accidentally swallow button batteries too.**

Hearing aid batteries can look like medications especially in the dark.

Follow the checklist above to reduce the risk of injury.

