

Hearing Aids and Battery Safety

Information and advice for patients

Audiology



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Button batteries can cause serious injury or even death if swallowed. They can cause choking and/or internal burns and must be kept away from small children or adults with confusion e.g. those with dementia.

Tamperproof Locks

A tamperproof lock can be used to prevent access to the battery within a hearing aid. All children who are under 5 years must have a tamperproof lock fitted to their hearing aid. This should also be considered for anyone who lives with or has regular visits from a child under 5 years (for example an older child who has younger siblings or an adult with young children) or someone who has additional risk factor e.g. dementia or confusion. Please make your Audiologist aware if you think your or your child's hearing aid needs a tamperproof lock.

Battery Storage

- Batteries should be stored in their original packaging and out of the sight and reach of children, adults with confusion or dementia and pets.
- Used batteries should be stored safely in a childproof container and recycled promptly.

IF YOU SUSPECT A BATTERY HAS BEEN SWALLOWED SEEK MEDICAL HELP IMMEDIATELY

- Take the child/person to A&E or dial 999 for an ambulance
- Do not allow them to eat or drink
- Do not try to make them sick
- If you have the battery packaging or device the battery came from, take this to A&E with you.

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Sources used in this leaflet

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