



Patient Safety Alert

A guide for parents/carers

HEARING AID BATTERIES

Babies and young children (under five years) can suffer serious injury if they ingest coin/button batteries or poke them into their nostrils or ears.



If you have or live with an adult or a child aged five or over with a health condition or disabilities that might put them at increased risk of swallowing a coin/button battery or pushing one into an ear or nostril, including those with a significant learning disability, dementia or other cognitive or sensory impairment, your hearing aid should be fitted with a tampered proof battery drawer. Please let your audiologist know.

How should hearing aid batteries be stored?

Hearing aid batteries, whether they are used or new, must be stored out of the reach of small children, or older children or adults with risk factors, and pets, to prevent them from swallowing a battery. Optimal room storage temperature for storing hearing aid batteries is between 10 and 25°C.

We advise that you turn the hearing aid off when not in use, but as this exposes the batteries, please keep your hearing aid out of reach in a safe place.

Contact with metal objects such as keys or coins can cause a hearing aid battery to short-circuit; Therefore it is recommended to never carry individual batteries loose in a purse, wallet or handbag.



What do I do if a battery is swallowed?

If batteries are ingested, seek medical help immediately.

How do I dispose of a used hearing aid battery?

It is recommended to dispose of batteries at battery disposable centres. Your local supermarket or pharmacy might have a disposable box. You can also drop your used batteries at your local audiology department for safe disposal.

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Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

If you have a compliment, complaint or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please contact us on 020 7288 3182. We will try our best to meet your needs.

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