

**Button Batteries**

FACT	REFERENCE
1. Injuries happen because saliva or moisture within the body comes into contact with the button battery and creates an electrical current. This electrical current can cause severe burns and tissue damage. This damage can continue even after the battery is removed.	1. <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326045774_Double_button_battery_ingestion_-_The_macaroon_sign">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326045774_Double_button_battery_ingestion_-_The_macaroon_sign</a>
2. Often a child swallows a battery without anyone noticing. They may continue to breathe and behave normally while damage is already happening. If there is any indication, it may just seem like they have a cold or the flu. It is important to take steps to prevent these injuries before they happen.	2. <a href="https://www.choice.com.au/babies-and-kids/children-and-safety/avoiding-common-dangers/articles/button-battery-dangers">https://www.choice.com.au/babies-and-kids/children-and-safety/avoiding-common-dangers/articles/button-battery-dangers</a>
3. Around 20 children are taken to the Starship Emergency Department because of button battery-related injuries, or because they are suspected of swallowing one, every year.	3. Starship CED Dr Michael Shepherd
4. The National Poisons Centre receives around 44 calls each year about young children swallowing button batteries or getting them stuck in their ears or nose.	4. Unpublished National Poisons Centre data. Accessed March 2020
5. Serious damage can occur in as little as 2 hours.	5. <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326045774_Double_button_battery_ingestion_-_The_macaroon_sign">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326045774_Double_button_battery_ingestion_-_The_macaroon_sign</a>
6. Where do children get hold of button batteries? 61.8% directly from a product; 29.8% loose batteries; 8.2% batteries in their packaging	6. Refer to 5. above
7. 20mm button batteries are most likely to get stuck in a child's throat.	7. Refer to 5. above
8. TIPS: Search, Secure, Share.	8. Refer to 5. above