



Patient Safety Alert

Coin Button Hearing Aid Batteries

Information for patients

- Babies and young children (under five years) can suffer serious injuries if they swallow coin/button batteries or poke them into their nose or ears.
- If anyone in your household has a condition or disability that might lead them to swallow or put a coin/button battery up their nose, your hearing aid must be fitted with a tamper proof battery drawer. **Tell your Audiologist.**

How should hearing aid batteries be stored?

- **All hearing aids and their batteries, used or new, must be stored out of reach** and in a safe place, so that they cannot be swallowed.
- All hearing aid batteries **must be** stored at a room temperature of between 10-25°C.
- Make sure that you turn off your hearing aid when not using it.
- **Do not** carry spare hearing aid batteries or your hearing aid in your bag. If your hearing aid gets close to a metal object (keys or coins) it can short-circuit and stop working.

What do I do if a battery is swallowed?

- If a battery is swallowed, get medical help straight away. Call 111 or 999.



How do I get rid of used hearing aid batteries?

- Recycle your old hearing aid batteries at a local supermarket or pharmacy. They often have a disposal box. You can also drop your used batteries off at your local Audiology department.

For further information, please contact:

St Anns Hospital Clinic

Department of Audiological Medicine

St Ann's Hospital

St Ann's Road, London N15 3TH

E mail: whh-tr.StAnnsAudiology@nhs.net

Tel: 020 3224 4698

Whittington Hospital Clinic

Audiology Clinic 4B

Magdala Avenue, London, N19 5NF

E mail: whh-tr.audiology-whitthealth@nhs.net

Tel: 020 7288 5220

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.PALS@nhs.net

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please email whh-tr.patient-information@nhs.net. We will try our best to meet your needs.

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