

Pediatric Magnet Ingestion: Get the Facts, Prevent an Injury

1,700 magnet ingestions have been treated in U.S. emergency departments from 2009-2011.¹



Little Magnets = Big Problem

Rare-earth, high-powered magnets are not your typical refrigerator magnet. Measuring only 5 millimeters (0.20 inches) in diameter, these powerful magnets are candy-sized and easily swallowed. Approximately 80% of all high-powered magnet ingestions result in endoscopic or surgical intervention.²

Tips for Caregivers



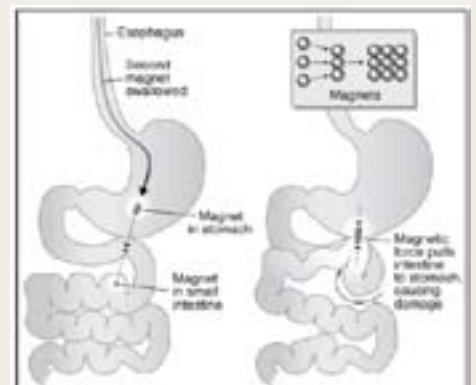
- Rare-earth, high-powered magnets are not toys.
- These magnets should not be kept in homes, schools, or other settings where there are children.

I put magnets in my mouth to pretend I had a tongue ring. I didn't realize the dangers of swallowing them.



Tips for Medical Professionals

If two or more magnets are swallowed, the magnetic force can make holes in the intestines. Do not wait for magnets to pass.



Read: [Management of Ingested Magnets in Children](#) from *JPGN*.

¹Consumer Product Safety Commission, estimated Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2011

²Neodymium magnet adult desk toys are associated with increased medical and surgical intervention in children.

Study of NASPGHAN members conducted 7/26/2012 - 10/10/2012. Noel, Robert A.; Bousvaros, Athos; Gilger, Mark A.