

Battery safety

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at rduh.pals-northern@nhs.net.

Storing batteries safely

- ✓ Keep new/spare batteries in their original blister packet out of sight and reach of children, adults with vision or cognitive difficulties and pets.
- ✓ Do not store spare or used batteries around food items.
- ✓ Avoid storing spare and used batteries in pill boxes or with medication. The small size and shape means they can easily be mistaken for sweets or medication.
- ✓ When changing a battery, make sure they are not left loose on surfaces where a child might pick them up, or they might fall under furniture or onto the floor.
- ✓ Try not to let young children or adults with cognitive difficulties see you changing a hearing aid battery. It is safer if they do not know that the battery compartment opens.
- ✓ Store your hearing aid in the box provided and in a safe place when it is not being worn.
- ✓ Recycle batteries safely and as quickly as possible.
- ✓ You can ask your audiologist to fit a childproof battery lock to your hearing aids if you are concerned.

What to do if you suspect a battery has been swallowed

- Even in case of suspicion and you didn't witness the ingestion yourself, you should take them to your nearest Accident and Emergency (A&E) as quickly as possible or dial 999 for an ambulance.
- Do not give them anything to eat or drink or try to make them sick, as this could cause further damage.
- Do not delay in taking action, even if there are no obvious symptoms.
- Take the product packaging with you if you have it to hand.
- Batteries inserted into the nose or ear can also cause problems, such as nose bleeds or bleeding from the ear. They should be taken to A&E as soon as possible.

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email rduh.pals-northern@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

Tell us about your experience of our services. Share your feedback on the Care Opinion website www.careopinion.org.uk.

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Raleigh Park, Barnstaple
Devon EX31 4JB
Tel. 01271 322577
www.royaldevon.nhs.uk

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