

Battery Safety

Hearing aid batteries are very dangerous and when swallowed, can cause serious oesophageal burns or death within 2 hours. Serious damage can also occur when they become stuck in the ear or nose. If such incidence does occur, please follow the advice below:

Suspected Battery Ingestion – What to do?

- Seek immediate attention at A&E
- Do NOT let them eat or drink
- Do NOT induce vomiting
- Take the battery packaging with you to the hospital and show to the hospital staff

How do I store my batteries safely?

- Store new/spare batteries in their package in a sealed container.
- Ensure the batteries are kept out of the sight and reach of children and vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that when you open the battery package, you do not drop any batteries on the ground
- Keep any old/used batteries out of reach from children or vulnerable adults immediately
 - Note: It is good practice to store old batteries in the original package as it ensures that no old batteries are missing
- Recycle batteries safely and as soon as possible. Many local councils offer recycle schemes for batteries or you can return them to the audiology department.
- Ensure batteries are not touching each other when stored as this can be a fire risk
- **Never** store batteries with medicines, as they can be mistaken for pills

Keeping your young child/ vulnerable adult safe

- You may request a childproof battery lock to the hearing aids, particularly if the patient is under 5 years old or has/living with someone with additional risk factors
- When hearing aids are not used, keep them out of sight and reach of young children/ vulnerable adults
- Change the batteries out of sight of your child, as it is safer for them to not know that the battery compartment opens
- Teach older children that hearing aid batteries are dangerous and should never be played with or given to their younger siblings