

# Pediatric Magnet Ingestion: Get the Facts, Prevent an Injury

**1,700** magnet ingestions have been treated in U.S. emergency departments from 2009-2011.<sup>1</sup>



## 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.<sup>2</sup>

### 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.**

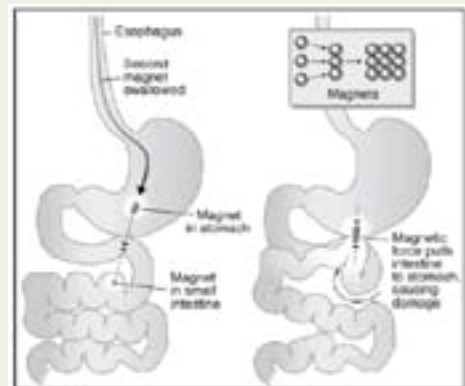


**I'll put anything in my mouth!  
Keep magnets away from me!**



### 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*.