

Emergency Department

Swallowing of Super Strong Rare-Earth Magnets

(Also known as: NdFeB, NIB, Neo magnet, Neodymium magnets)

Today, your child has been discharged after swallowing of a magnet. Even though the magnet has not passed through them yet, it is **ok** to take your child home.

After going home, your child will need a **follow up X-ray**, 6-12 hours later and you should have been given a time to return to the Emergency Department. This follow up X-ray is extremely important so doctors can make sure the magnet is moving normally through your child's bowels.

Until your child has had their repeat X-ray, remove any other external magnetic objects nearby and avoid clothes with metallic buttons or belts with buckles.

There is no need to examine your child's poo to find the swallowed object.

If a single magnet is swallowed, it can be expected to be passed spontaneously if the magnet is not too large.



Patient Information

Very rarely, the object can become stuck in the stomach or bowels. Take your child to the Emergency Department **immediately** if they have:-

- **Concerns of further magnet or foreign body ingestion**
- **Vomiting (being sick)**
- **Abdominal (tummy) pain**
- **Blood in their vomit or poo**
- **A fever**
- **You have concerns about a change in your child's eating patterns for example they are refusing food or fluids.**

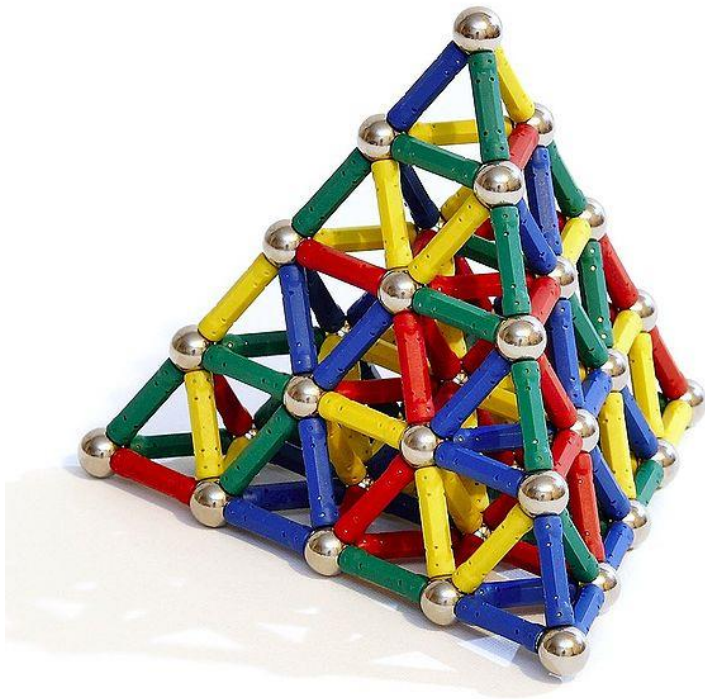
Recently, a different type of magnet (also known as Neo magnet, Bucky balls, Magnet balls or Super Strong Rare-Earth Magnets) has gone on sale. They are most often sold as 'adult desk toys, stress relievers or brain development toys' and it not legal to sell them to children less than 14 years of age.

They are between seven and fourteen times stronger than traditional magnets and are sometimes called super strong or powerful magnets. They can be a variety of shapes, most often balls or discs. These are some examples of what they look like.



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Patient Information



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