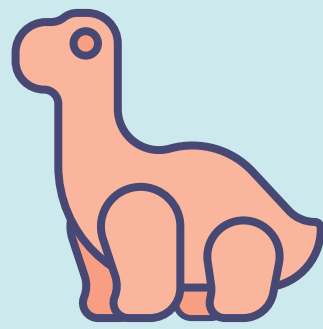


Swallowed objects

Objects often swallowed

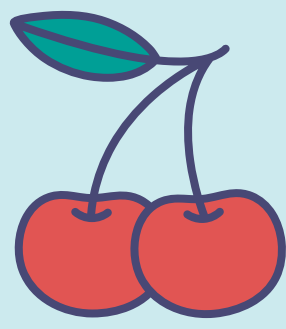
Some commonly swallowed objects are:



Small toys and household objects



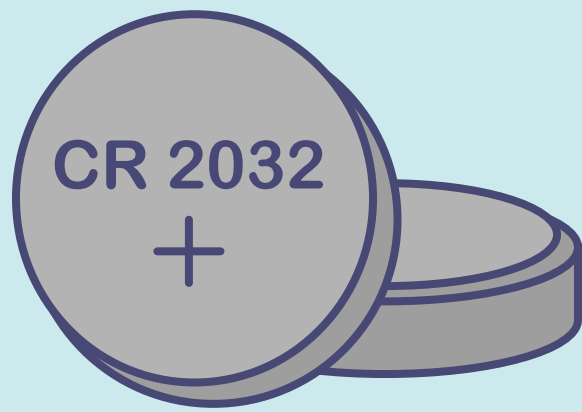
Coins



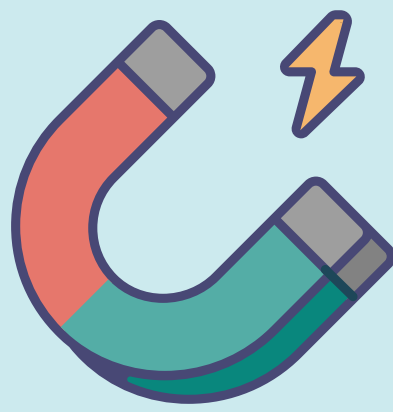
Pips or stones from fruit

While most swallowed objects can pass through your body without a problem, some need to be removed. This is because they can cause significant harm or even death.

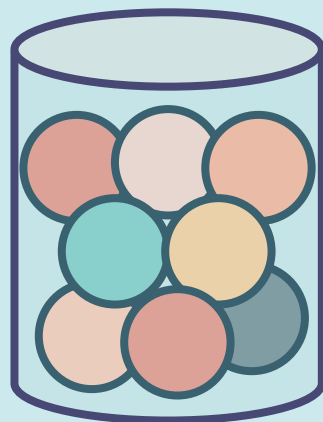
Some objects can be very dangerous if they are swallowed, such as:



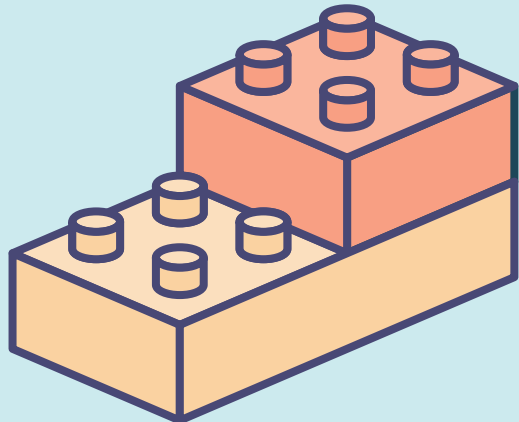
Button batteries



Magnets especially 2 or more



Water beads (also called fairy eggs or dragon eggs)



Large objects more than 6cm long or wider than 2.5cm

When should I get urgent care?

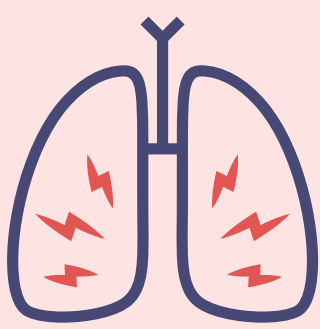


You should go to the nearest emergency department, if you or your child has swallowed magnets or batteries or if the object was large or sharp.

You should also call triple zero (000) for an ambulance if you have any of the symptoms below:



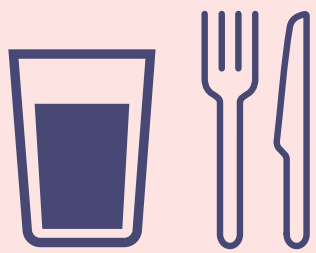
Drooling or blisters in your mouth



Breathing problems



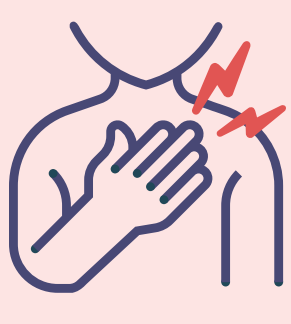
Choking or coughing when eating or drinking



Eating or drinking less than normal



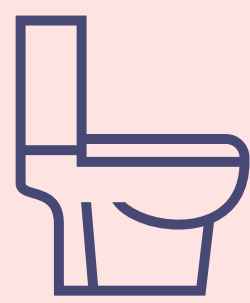
Gagging or vomiting



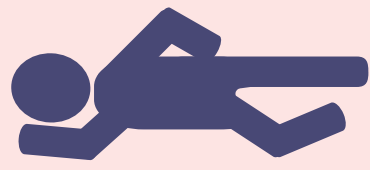
Pain in your chest or neck



Confusion



Blood in your vomit or poo



Lost consciousness

When should I see my doctor?

If you have swallowed a foreign object other than a magnet or battery and have symptoms, you should see a doctor.

You don't need to see a doctor if you have swallowed a harmless object and have no symptoms. Watch for symptoms over the next couple of days.

While waiting for the ambulance



Do not eat or drink anything



Do not try to make yourself vomit