

# ACCIDENTAL POISONING HIGH-RISK HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

## OVERVIEW

- **Accidental swallowing of non-food items** is one of the main causes of accidental poisoning in babies and children
- Children **under the age of 6 account** for nearly half of the reported cases
- Accidental **poisoning can be deadly**



## COMMON HOUSEHOLD ITEMS THAT CAUSE ACCIDENTAL POISONING & THEIR IMPACT

ITEM	EXAMPLE	HEALTH IMPACT
<b>MAGNETS</b>	<b>Common magnets including pin magnets or refrigerator magnets</b>	Magnets can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• become lodged in the intestine</li> <li>• cause a closed-loop obstruction</li> <li>• contain rare earth metals</li> </ul>
<b>BATTERIES</b>	<b>Button batteries or other batteries</b>	Batteries can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• get stuck in the digestive system</li> <li>• quickly cause electric burns in the body</li> </ul>
<b>LAUNDRY DETERGENTS</b>	<b>Laundry powder, liquid, or pods</b>	Laundry detergents can cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• airway obstruction</li> <li>• corrosive effects on the digestive system</li> </ul>
<b>CLEANING PRODUCTS</b>	<b>Cleaning products or chemicals that are stored in containers that resemble food packaging: Hydrogen peroxide (may be mistaken for water) Oils and solvents (scented)</b>	Household products can cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vomiting</li> <li>• gas embolism</li> <li>• gastrointestinal and central nervous system damage</li> </ul> <p>Gas embolism is when a bubble of air or gas becomes trapped in a blood vessel and blocks the blood supply to organs</p>
<b>PILLS - LONG -ACTING OPIOID NARCOTICS</b>	<b>Buprenorphine pills or gel</b>	<b>A single pill can be deadly</b>

### FOR INCREASED SAFETY:

- Use child-resistant **packaging**
- **Label products** to avoid accidentally mistaking non-food items for food
- Keep potentially hazardous items **out of children's reach**
- Keep **Narcan** at home to help reverse **life-threatening opioid exposures**: Visit [www.Narcan.com](http://www.Narcan.com)

### IF ACCIDENTAL POISONING HAPPENS:

- Know the **emergency symptoms**: seizure, loss of consciousness and trouble breathing
- **Call 911 for medical help** right away
- **Surgery** for removal the hazardous item may be needed
- **IMPORTANT: For opioid exposures, call 911 and use Narcan nasal spray** to help until the ambulance arrives. Narcan is **safe to use** even if opioids are not present

## SOURCES

- **Pediatric Ingestions: New High-Risk Household Hazards** - [bit.ly/412NfJ6](https://bit.ly/412NfJ6)
- **Info about Narcan Nasal Spray** - [www.narcan.com](http://www.narcan.com)