Parent's Guide to Use of Honey in Button Battery Emergencies

What is a button battery?

- A coin sized battery often found in remote controls and other electronic devices.
- See the picture to the right to see a picture of different button batteries

What are some sign that my child has swallowed a button battery?

- Poor appetite
- Difficulty eating, drinking, or swallowing
- Trouble breathing, wheezing, or coughing
- Throwing up, drooling, or gagging
- Chest pain

What is the danger of my child swallowing a button battery?

- Severe damage to the throat
- Death
- This is ALWAYS an emergency!

What should I do if I suspect my child has swallowed a button battery?

- Seek emergency medical care immediately!
- Do **NOT** try to force your child to throw up
- Do not give the child anything to eat or drink other than honey

Honey can I use honey to help my child if I suspect they have swallowed a button battery?

- Honey can only be used if your child is over 1 year of age
- Honey can help coat and protect the throat from damage caused by the battery
- If you child is over 1 year old, you can give him or her 2 teaspoons of honey as soon as you suspect he or she has swallowed the battery
- This can be given every 10 minutes and can be repeated up to 5 times





Anfang R, Jatana K, Linn R, et al. pH-neutralizing esophageal irrigations as a novel mitigation strategy for button battery injury. Laryngoscope. 2019 Jan;129(1):49-57.