



**Information for patients, relatives and carers**

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# Swallowed Foreign Body

## Swallowed Foreign Body Advice

Small non-sharp swallowed objects would be expected to pass through the bowel in 48-72 hours in most cases.

Continue with normal diet. Do NOT give laxatives. You must contact the Emergency Department if any of the following develop:

- gripping abdominal pain
- vomiting
- abdominal distension

In most cases no further action is required. An important exception is the button battery (typically used in hearing aids, digital watches). These can decompose in the stomach releasing toxic chemicals and normally require prompt removal from the stomach.

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① If you have further concerns about your condition, please contact your GP. If you are not sure what to do, call 111 or get help from 111 online: <https://111.nhs.uk/> [When to use NHS 111 - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

## **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)**

We can listen to feedback (positive or negative), answer questions and help resolve any concerns about Trust services.

PALS can be contacted on 01904 726262, or email [yhs-tr.PatientExperienceTeam@nhs.net](mailto:yhs-tr.PatientExperienceTeam@nhs.net).

An answer phone is available out of hours.

## **Leaflets in alternative languages or formats**

If you require this information in a different language or format, for example Braille, large print, Easy Read or audio, please ask the staff who are looking after you.

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