

Survey

Magnetic Toys

Toys containing small magnets (3-8 mm) carry the risk of ingestion or aspiration. If more than one is swallowed, the magnetic objects can be very powerful and attract to each other in different segments of the bowel, causing intestinal perforations or obstructions and requiring surgical removal.

The Injury Prevention Committee of the Canadian Paediatric Society would like to assess the awareness of paediatric health care providers regarding this health hazard and the scope of complications encountered after ingestion of magnets.

FIGURE 1. Abdominal radiograph of a boy aged 3 years, noting three attached magnets that resulted in volvulus (i.e., twisting of the bowel) and multiple bowel perforations

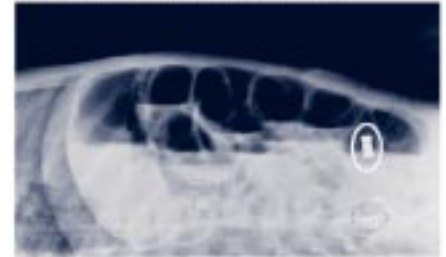


Photo: Consumer Product Safety Commission

Please take a few moments to answer the following:

1. Are you aware of complications from the ingestion of magnetic toys? • No • Yes

If no, you do not need to answer any further questions.

2. What information source(s) made you aware of this hazard?

- The Magnetix™ recall/litigation
- The Polly Pocket™ recall
- Health Canada's advisories (www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/advisories-avis/2006/2006_44_e.html)
(www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/advisories-avis/2006/2006_114_e.html)
- Clinical experience • The media • Publications
- Other (please specify): _____

3. In the past year, have you seen patients who ingested multiple magnets? • No • Yes

If yes, please specify:

The total number of cases _____

The most serious complication seen _____

Date: Month _____ Year _____ Age of patient: _____

Product involved: • Magnetix™ • Polly Pocket™
• Other (please specify): _____

Management: • None • Endoscopy • Laparotomy • ICU
• Other (please specify) _____

Please record your contact information if you would like to provide additional information (additional cases or details).

Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Telephone #: _____

Please return this survey with your monthly reporting form.

Thank you for your participation.

08/2007