

# Discharge advice following ingestion of a super strong magnet



## Information for patients

General Surgery



After you have ingested a super strong magnet, you will need a follow up x-ray 6-12 hours following your discharge from the Surgical Assessment Centre (SAC).

You will have been given a time to attend the X-ray department (Radiology). Once you have had this x-ray you need to go to SAC for a further review.

It is **extremely important** that you attend for this x-ray so that the doctors can check and make sure that the magnet is moving normally through your digestive system.

Until you have your repeat x-ray, remove any other external magnetic objects nearby and avoid clothes with metallic buttons, or belts with a buckle.

If it is a single magnet you can expect it pass through your digestive system naturally, if the magnet is not too large.

**You will need to have an x-ray every 6-12 hours until it is shown that the magnet has passed through your stomach and is progressing through your small bowel and beyond.**

Whilst extremely rare, it is possible for the magnet to become stuck in the stomach or intestines which may require **urgent treatment**.

If you have any of the following you should attend **SAC immediately**;

- Vomiting
- Abdominal (stomach) pains
- Blood in your vomit or stools (poo)
- A fever (high temperature)
- A change in your eating habits, for example not wanting to eat or drink

## **Contacting SAC**

The telephone numbers for the Surgical Assessment Centre are;

- **0114 226 9440**
- **0114 271 5201**



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