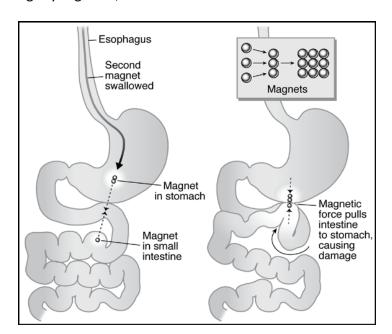


## Warning! SWALLOWED MAGNETS ARE DANGEROUS

Powerful, rare earth (neodymium) magnets are widely available in consumer and industrial products

- Desk or office toys o Jewelry
- Toys
  Office supplies
  Machines and tools
- These magnets usually are small in size and round in shape, like BBs or ball bearings. Magnet ball brand names include BuckyBalls™ and Neocube™
- Though intended for adult use, they are difficult to keep out of the reach of children
  - Shiny and attractive to toddlers
  - Used by "tweens" and teens to mimic body piercing jewelry
- Extremely powerful magnetic attractions are produced
  - When more than one magnet is swallowed, the magnetic force can bring two pieces of intestine tightly together, and make holes in the intestines



- Magnet ingestion can lead to bowel injury, blockage or severe infection
  - o Over 200 documented cases of children swallowing these magnets
  - Most require emergency procedures for removal
  - Some require major surgery

## What can parents do?

- o Keep tiny ultra-powerful magnets out of the reach of infants and toddlers
- Educate your older children and teens about the risks of swallowing these magnets.
  These magnets are not children's toys.
- o If your toddler or child swallows these magnets, immediately call your doctor or go to the emergency department.



## **Emergency Care**

Morristown Medical Center: 973-971-6102 Overlook Medical Center: 908-522-5664