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URL of this page: <https://medlineplus.gov/foreignbodies.html>

## Foreign Bodies

If you've ever gotten a splinter or had sand in your eye, you've had experience with a foreign body. A foreign body is something that is stuck inside you but isn't supposed to be there. You may inhale or swallow a foreign body, or you may get one from an injury to almost any part of your body. Foreign bodies are more common in small children, who sometimes stick things in their mouths, ears, and noses.

Some foreign bodies, like a small splinter, do not cause serious harm. Inhaled or swallowed foreign bodies may cause choking [<https://medlineplus.gov/choking.html>] or bowel obstruction [<https://medlineplus.gov/intestinalobstruction.html>] and may require medical care.

### Start Here

- Foreign Body [<https://www.virtualpediatrichospital.org/patients/cqqa/foreignbody.shtml>] (Virtual Pediatric Hospital)

### Treatments and Therapies

- Endoscopic Foreign Body Removal [<https://gi.org/topics/endoscopic-foreign-body-removal/>] (American College of Gastroenterology)

### Related Issues

- Puncture Wounds [<https://www.foohealthfacts.org/conditions/puncture-wounds>] (American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons)  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.foohealthfacts.org/conditions/puncture-wounds?lang=es-MX>]

### Specifics

- Foreign Object in the Ear: First Aid [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid/basics/ART-20056709?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/first-aid/first-aid/basics/art-20056709?p=1>]
- Foreign Object in the Eye: First Aid [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid/basics/ART-20056645?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/first-aid/first-aid/basics/art-20056645?p=1>]
- Foreign Objects in the Rectum [<https://www.merckmanuals.com/home/digestive-disorders/anal-and-rectal-disorders/foreign-objects-in-the-rectum>] (Merck & Co., Inc.)  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.merckmanuals.com/es-us/hogar/trastornos-gastrointestinales/trastornos-anales-y-rectales/objetos-extra%C3%B1os-en-el-recto>]

### Images

- Corneal Foreign Body [<https://skinsight.com/skin-conditions/corneal-foreign-body/?lmiw9cApl=1>] (VisualDX)
- Foreign Object in Eye or Skin, First Aid [<https://skinsight.com/skin-conditions/first-aid-foreign-objectin-eye-or-skin/?lmiw9cApl=1>] (VisualDX)

## Clinical Trials

- ClinicalTrials.gov: Foreign Bodies [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Foreign+Bodies%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)

## Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- Article: Clinical efficacy of magnet-assisted removal for dental high-speed dental handpiece broken... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40665268>]
- Article: Foreign Body Ingestion: Radiologic Evaluation, Findings, and Management. [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40590076>]
- Article: Surgical removal of ingested magnets in children: A retrospective clinical analysis... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40527817>]
- Foreign Bodies -- see more articles [<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Foreign+Bodies%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+AND+humans%5Bmh%5D+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+%22ast+1+Year%22+%5Bdat%5D+NOT+%28letter%5Bpt%5D+OR+case+reports%5Bpt%5D+OR+editorial%5Bpt%5D+OR+comment%5Bpt%5D%29+AND+free+full+text%5Bsb%5D+>]

## Find an Expert

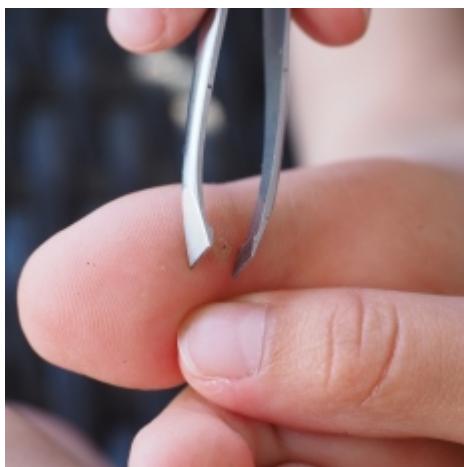
- American College of Emergency Physicians [<https://www.acep.org/>]
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [<https://www.cdc.gov/>]  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cdc.gov/spanish/>]

## Children

- Splinters and Other Foreign Bodies in the Skin [<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/skin/pages/Splinters-and-Other-Foreign-Bodies-in-the-Skin.aspx>] (American Academy of Pediatrics)  
Also in Spanish [<https://www.healthychildren.org/spanish/health-issues/conditions/skin/paginas/splinters-and-other-foreign-bodies-in-the-skin.aspx>]

## Patient Handouts

- Bezoar [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001582.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)  
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001582.htm>]
- Eye - foreign object in [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002084.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)  
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/002084.htm>]
- Foreign body in the nose [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000037.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)  
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000037.htm>]
- Foreign object - inhaled or swallowed [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000036.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)  
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000036.htm>]
- Splinter removal [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002137.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)  
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/002137.htm>]



## MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

[Bezoar](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001582.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001582.htm]

[Button batteries](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002764.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002764.htm]

[Eye - foreign object in](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002084.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002084.htm]

[Foreign body in the nose](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000037.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000037.htm]

[Foreign object - inhaled](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007738.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007738.htm]

[Foreign object - inhaled or swallowed](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000036.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000036.htm]

[Splinter removal](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002137.htm) [https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002137.htm]

## Related Health Topics

[Child Safety](https://medlineplus.gov/childsafety.html) [https://medlineplus.gov/childsafety.html]

[Choking](https://medlineplus.gov/choking.html) [https://medlineplus.gov/choking.html]

[First Aid](https://medlineplus.gov/firstaid.html) [https://medlineplus.gov/firstaid.html]

[Safety](https://medlineplus.gov/safety.html) [https://medlineplus.gov/safety.html]

[Wounds and Injuries](https://medlineplus.gov/woundsandinjuries.html) [https://medlineplus.gov/woundsandinjuries.html]

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