



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Button Battery Task Force

FY 24 OP PLAN ENTRY: Batteries, Ingestion (Button)

DATE OF MEETING: 7/17/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual (Teleconference)

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Jill Hurley (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 8/6/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Jill Hurley (ESHF), Doug Lee (EXHR), Daniel Taxier (ESME), Sylvia Chen (EXIP)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact Co-Chair Ian Jacobs, MD, or Kris Jatana, MD

Summary of Meeting:

The subject Button Battery Task Force (BBTF) meeting includes several US, AUS, & EU pediatric doctors, industry stakeholders, CPSC, and injury prevention advocates.

The purpose of the meeting was to share information on the current efforts in on button battery safety with fellow task force members in the medical community. First, Co-Chair Dr. Jacobs read a recent position statement on button and coin cell battery safety put forth by the American Academy of Otolaryngology, and spoke of with current society endorsements. Requests for additional endorsements and potential contacts for endorsements, especially from global networks, were discussed.

Co-Chair Dr. Jacobs then discussed recent US efforts in button and coin battery safety through the enactment of Reese's Law, its requirements, and products affected. CPSC staff shared where to find button and coin battery information on [cpsc.gov](https://www.cpsc.gov) and will email links to the co-chairs. Representatives from both EU and AUS commented on current efforts for button and coin battery safety in their respective countries. Co-Chair Dr. Jatana spoke of on-going efforts for injury data collection from the medical community through development of an App-based database and soon to be published research on this topic. The medical community is concerned with the number of under-reported incidents in published articles and current NEISS data do not accurately reflect the daily number of child ingestion incidents for several reasons including: limited methods for cohesive incident data collection and storage, time limitations and competing priorities doctors experience in reporting information, and inadequate means to collaborate from a global perspective.

A battery manufacturer representative talked about the company's educational initiatives. Additionally, a discussion was held on the use of bitterants to discourage coin cell ingestions and blue dye on batteries to notify parents in case their children placed a coin cell around the mouth exposing it to saliva. Two task group members from EU presented on their innovated development of a safe battery that would cease to produce an



electrical charge once ingested. Participants introduced the topic of alkaline battery caustic injury and potentially links to cancer, however the reporting of and research of long-term outcomes of alkaline battery ingestions is questionable.

Next Steps:

The BBTF participants will continue to push industry to adopt safer battery technology, increase medical professionals reporting on ingestions, continue collaboration with global partners, and enhance efforts in educating personnel in emergency response services involving battery ingestions within the pediatric community. The next meeting is yet to be scheduled.