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Summary

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF PAEDIATRIC GASTROENTEROLOGY HEPATOLOGY AND NUTRITION (ESPGHAN) BUTTON BATTERY INGESTION TASKFORCE SURVEY ACROSS EUROPE AND BEYOND – ICEBERG BELOW THE SURFACE

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UEG Week Copenhagen 2023 Poster

Oesophagus

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A survey of 177 clinicians managing 1830 button battery ingestion cases over three years reveals wide practice variation and poor adherence to ESPGHAN guidelines, with 30% of cases developing complications and 21 deaths reported.

KEY POINTS

- Of 1830 button battery ingestion cases, 70% recovered fully but 30% developed complications including strictures, dysphagia, and fistulas, with 21 deaths reported.
- Despite 80% awareness of ESPGHAN guidelines, 70% of clinicians did not use recommended honey administration and 76.5% did not use acetic acid irrigation after battery removal.
- Significant practice variation exists in nasogastric tube placement (56% compliance), timing of contrast studies, and initiation of oral feeds post-removal.
- 38% of respondents reported increasing numbers of button battery ingestion cases, with 28.6% involving large batteries greater than 20mm.
- Authors propose a pan-European prospective registry to improve incidence tracking, outcome evaluation, and inform prevention strategies.

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