

Child Care Articles 5 Soothers & Soother Holders

JA2015 Launch Event

20th April 2016

Brussels

Sarah Jacques - Activity Leader

Rebecca Morrison - Activity Coordinator



Participants

- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Germany MEBW
- Greece
- Latvia
- Malta
- Romania
- Bulgaria
- Denmark
- Germany MFR
- Iceland
- Lithuania
- The Netherlands

Scope of problem

- EU Injury Database (IDB) data indicates that approximately 44 injuries to children 0-4 years of age involving soothers are serious enough to require a visit to the emergency department each year
- RAPEX data examined over the past 10 years shows 78 reports of soothers and/or soother holders - for suffocation risks, choking on small parts/lack of removal device/lack of ventilation holes, small parts and chemical risks
- 15 of 17 EEA states voted for soothers and soother holders under the priority setting exercise for CCA

Scope of problem - Soothers

- CEN published a revised European standard for Soothers EN 1400:2013+A1:2014 in April 2014 - has this resulted in a safe standard?
- Are the new migration rules (for certain chemicals) now being met?
- Are choking and suffocation hazards being dealt with?





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Toddler turned blue and nearly choked to death after the teat came off her dummy and lodged in her windpipe

- Mother-of-four Caoimhe Henry found baby Eireann motionless in her cot
- She quickly performed CPR and claims to have dislodged dummy's teat
- Ms Henry believes the soother broke while the 13-month-old was using it
- Manufacturer MAM are investigating but say there has never been a safety issue with its products in the UK

Scope of problem - Soother Holders

- The standard for Soother Holders EN 12586:2007+A1:2011 came into force in June 2011
- Its main aim is to eliminate any risks of strangulation
- Reports of small parts are frequently seen
- Soother Holders that include a 'play element' are also subject to the requirements of the Toy Directive



Mum relives terrifying moment baby son turned blue after choking on piece of dummy

12:06, 12 JUL 2014 | UPDATED 13:17, 12 JUL 2014 | BY HELEN HUNT

Stacey Davies is now warning other mums of the potential dangers of 'dummy chains' after son Mason was found slumped in his high chair

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Lucky: Stacey Davies with son Mason and the piece of dummy chain he choked on

A horrified mum has spoken of the terrifying moment she found her baby's lips turning blue as he choked on a plastic teddy bitten off his dummy chain.



Objectives

- To build on the work undertaken during CCA1, 2, 3 & 4 - thereby increase the safety of products within this product category
- To ensure that soothers and soother holders are safe in use
- To continue to support harmonisation of market surveillance across the EEA within this product sector
- Further update the CCA Priority List for future Joint Actions

Sampling and testing

- We anticipate the testing of 250 soothers and soother holders
- Gain experience with the safety requirements in EN 1400:2013+A1:2014, EN 12586:2007+A1:2011 and other relevant standards
- Support the definition and checking of test methods, adequacy of tests, thereby facilitating the development of testing
- Coordinate with stakeholders, including CEN

Horizontal Issues to consider...

- MSA will undertake ‘e-inspections’ and purchase products online where possible
- CAs will be invited to Meeting 2 or 3 of CCA5, to share experiences and best practices
- CCA Activities have developed good working relationships with stakeholders (including CEN TC252) who have been invited to the KO Meeting, and will be kept updated as the JA progresses

Next Steps

Kick-off meeting - 18 May 2016, Brussels

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