



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.16 Infant Feeding Supports Warnings Task Group

FY 24 OP PLAN ENTRY: Nursing Support Products

DATE OF MEETING: 3/20/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Tim Smith (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 3/22/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Tim Smith (ESHF), Ashley Johnson (HSPP), Susan Proper (EC), Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP), and Tabby Zeb (GCRA)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the full attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

This meeting of the ASTM Infant Feeding Supports Warnings task group (TG) was led by the chair of the Infant Feeding Supports subcommittee, Jessica Doyle. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the TG's discussion of possible revisions to the product warning in the draft voluntary standard for nursing pillows,¹ based on the comments and negatives on the prior ballot (ASTM ballot F15 (23-20), item 2). During the discussion, the chair stated that her intent was to issue a new ballot on the draft standard by the end of this month (March). The primary topics of discussion related to the warnings were as follows:

- **"CAN KILL" Language.** The TG discussed the initial sentence of the warning in the current draft, which states that using the product for infant sleep or naps "can kill," a phrase that some members had previously expressed concern about. One attendee stated that "kill" did not describe the hazard, like the term "suffocation" would. CPSC staff pointed out that in the original warning, there was a second sentence that described the hazard scenario and referred to suffocation. The TG concluded that a better alternative was to reword the initial sentence to say, "USING THIS PRODUCT FOR INFANT SLEEP OR NAPS HAS RESULTED IN SUFFOCATION," and to remove the subsequent sentence that described how the suffocation was occurring.
- **Possible Pictogram.** The TG discussed the possibility of including a pictogram. During the discussion, CPSC staff stated that staff has been involved in some work related to the development of pictograms that communicate suffocation on soft bedding, but that the pictograms were not specific to nursing pillows. Staff agreed to provide the chair with a link to CPSC report, but one of the attendees forwarded the link to the TG prior to the end of the meeting.

¹ The task group previously agreed to change all "infant feeding supports" references to "nursing pillows."



- *Single- Versus Multi-Function Product.* The TG discussed the warning content in the context of whether the product is a single- or multi-functional product, with one attendee stating that some nursing pillows are intended for tummy time, even if not intended for lounging. The TG briefly discussed the possibility of having a separate warning intended for products that also have a tummy-time function. The chair reiterated the consensus opinion of the TG and the subcommittee that nursing pillows that would meet the standard are intended to be single-function products; that is, only used for feeding. Staff agreed and pointed out that it would not make sense for a product with a tummy-time function to have a warning that includes one of the statements under consideration, about using the product only for nursing or feeding. After additional discussion, the TG proposed that the warning included a statement that says, “ONLY use this product for nursing or feeding.” The TG discussed other possible revisions to the warning related to the single-function topic in terms of unattended use or keeping infants in arm’s reach. After considering some alternatives, the TG agreed to keep use the sentence from the original warning that says, “NEVER leave or prop baby alone in this product.”
- *Toys Requirement.* One attendee questioned whether the “Toys” requirement should be removed from the draft voluntary standard because nursing pillows are intended solely for feeding, and the TG discussed the possibility of explicitly prohibiting the presence of toys on nursing pillows. One attendee stated that toy requirements are common in all juvenile products standards.

Other revisions to the balloted warning, as presented to attendees, included the following:

- Removing the statement about using the product only with an awake baby.
- Revising the language to “move baby to a firm, flat sleep surface such as a bare crib or bassinet” to “place baby on its back in a crib, bassinet, or playpen.”
- Revising the language to never “use in sleep products like cribs, bassinets, or play yards” to never “place a nursing pillow in a crib, bassinet, or playpen.”
- Removing the statement to “Stop using if you feel yourself falling asleep.”
- Removing the statement to keep the baby’s face visible and their airway clear.
- Removing all fall-related warning language.

The chair ended the meeting stating that the TG will continue the discussion during the next TG meeting, which is scheduled for March 28, 2024.

Next Steps:

The task group will continue its discussions at the next Warnings TG meeting, which is scheduled for March 28, 2024.