



MEETING LOG

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

FY 23 OP PLAN ENTRY: Infant Support Pillows and Nursing Support Products

DATE OF MEETING: 7/24/2023

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Tim Smith (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 7/26/2023

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Tim Smith (ESHF), Ashley Johnson (HSPP), Celestine Kish (ESHF), Elisabeth Layton (GCRA), Stefanie Marques (HSPP), and Suad Wanna-Nakamura (HSPP)

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

Summary of Meeting:

This meeting of the ASTM Infant Feeding Supports Edge task group was led by the chair of the task group, Jessica Doyle. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss whether a performance requirement for a distinct “edge” on infant feeding supports, between the top infant support surface and the inner wall of the crescent-shaped opening, is achievable and addresses the known hazards by deterring use of the product for lounging or sleep. After a summary of the meeting’s purpose, the discussion focused on the following main topics:

- *C-Shaped Nursing Pillows:* Prior to the meeting, the Juvenile Products Manufacturers Association (JPMA) sent a letter to the co-chairs of the ASTM Infant Feeding Supports subcommittee discussing top selling nursing pillows on Amazon.com, nearly all of which are c-shaped. A representative from JPMA discussed the letter and emphasized the importance of c-shaped nursing pillows for successful breastfeeding. This was followed by a brief talk by Mary Schultheis, President of Crescent City Family Services in Louisiana, who discussed the importance of c-shaped nursing pillows and how they have found that providing these pillows to women increases breastfeeding and breastfeeding duration. CPSC staff asked what messaging her organization provides mother regarding the use of nursing pillows beyond breastfeeding, and Ms. Schultheis stated that they provide product instructions on how to use the products, and what not to do, based on information provided by the vendor supplying the products. She emphasized that education is very important.
- *Data Review:* The chair of the Data task group shared and summarized the findings from that task group’s prior data review for nursing pillows and all pillows, as a reminder of what hazards the draft standard is intending to address.
- *Possible Edge Requirement:* The task group then turned to the questions of whether an edge



requirement is achievable and would address the hazards identified in the incident data. The described intent of the requirement, based on the recommendation from Boise State University in their Infant Pillows report to CPSC, is to deter consumers from using nursing pillows for lounging; for example, by making it uncomfortable for such use. Some attendees expressed concern that making a sharp edge or a sharper angle between the infant support surface and inner wall of the product might create a new hazard. The task group briefly discussed what might be a proper angle for such a requirement. One attendee suggested that perhaps the standard could specify a maximum radius for the edge rather than specifying an angle. Another attendee stated that an edge requirement may be necessary if there is no visual difference between products that meet the other performance requirements being considered for the draft standard and those products involved in incidents, because consumers will likely use the products the same. The chair reminded the task group that products would be required to have a large warning, but some attendees stated that history shows that warnings alone will not work.

Next Steps:

The chair intends to send the data review spreadsheet and the Boise State University report to the task group and will schedule the next task group meeting for about 2 weeks out from this meeting.