December 7, 2021

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

Scott Lewis, Delta
Subcommittee Chair, F15.18, Bassinets and Cradles
ASTM
100 Barr Harbor Dr.
West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959

Dear Mr. Lewis,

CPSC staff1 has become aware of incidents involving bassinets with a cantilever design, in which infants reportedly rolled into the side of the product, or into a prone position. These incidents occurred from 2016 to the present. Four incidents, which are identified in the attached spreadsheet, involved deaths that occurred in the period from 2019 to present.

Cantilever-designed bassinets are supported on one side only. Figures 1 through 4 contain examples of these types of bassinets.

---

1The views or opinions expressed in this letter are solely those of the staff, and these views and opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Commission.
The incidents suggest that the sleep surface may tilt and cause an infant, during normal sleep movements, to roll from a supine to a side-lying position into the side of the product, or into a prone position, earlier than developmentally expected. Although ASTM F2933 – 16ε1 allows a resting side-to-side angle of 7˚, staff’s analysis suggests that this allowance may increase the risk of unexpected rollover within a cantilever-designed bassinet.

Bassinets with cantilever designs may allow flexibility in the sleep area. Staff observed that the products can move and bounce in a manner that is unlike traditional bassinets with four legs. Staff is concerned that a child who is moving his/her arms and legs in the product may create enough movement to cause the sleep area to further tilt side-to-side and/or head-to-toe. This may increase the likelihood that a child can roll unexpectedly from a supine to a side lying or prone position.

Currently, ASTM F2194 – 16ε1, Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Bassinets and Cradles, does not contain any references to, nor performance requirements for, bassinets that have a sleep surface that tilts and is flexible, such as a cantilever design. CPSC staff requests that the ASTM F15.18 Subcommittee on Bassinets form a task group to review these incidents and consider developing performance requirements to reduce the likelihood that infants will roll over unexpectedly.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Celestine Kish at: ckish@cpsc.gov, (301) 987-2547, or Sharon White at: swhite@cpsc.gov, (301)-987-2562.

Sincerely,

Celestine Kish, MA
Project Manager, Bassinets and Cradles

Sharon R. White
Human Factors representative

cc: Molly Lynyak, Manager, Technical Committee Operations
Jacqueline Campbell, CPSC Voluntary Standards Coordinator
Hope Nesteruk, Children’s Program Area Manager
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Document Numbers</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Age/Sex</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>X2920141A 260529CC3542</td>
<td>03/2019</td>
<td>1 MOF</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>ON MARCH [REDACTED], 2019, A ONE MONTH OLD FEMALE WEARING AN INFANT BODYSUIT WAS FOUND UNRESPONSIVE IN A BASSINET AFTER HAVING BEEN BOTTLE-FED FORMULA AND LAID DOWN ON A PAD ON HER BACK WITH A BLANKET TO SLEEP. THE VICTIM WAS TRANSPORTED TO A HOSPITAL WHERE SHE WAS DECLARED DECEASED. THE VICTIM'S OFFICIAL CAUSE OF DEATH WAS LISTED AS SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I2920165A 260224CCC3301</td>
<td>08/2019</td>
<td>4 MOM</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>A FOUR MONTH OLD INFANT BOY DIED AS A RESULT OF SUDDEN UNEXPECTED INFANT DEATH (SUIC) AFTER BEING FOUND UNRESPONSIVE IN A BASSINET. THE BOY'S MOTHER SWADDLED HIM IN A BLANKET AND PLACED HIM ON HIS BACK TO SLEEP IN THE BASSINET. WHEN THE BOY'S MOTHER WENT TO CHECK ON HIM AFTER SHE HAD BEEN SLEEPING A FEW HOURS SHE FOUND THE BOY FACE DOWN IN THE BASSINET AND NOT BREATHING.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>