



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.16 Nursing Pillows Warnings Task Group

FY 24 OP PLAN ENTRY: Nursing Support Products

DATE OF MEETING: 7/1/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Tim Smith (ESHF)

FILING DATE: 7/3/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Tim Smith (ESHF), Ashley Johnson (HSPP), Celestine Kish (ESHF), 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 Nursing Pillows Warnings task group (TG) was led by co-chair of the Nursing Pillows subcommittee, Jessica Doyle. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion of possible revisions to the product warning and related requirements in the draft voluntary standard for nursing pillows, based on comments and negatives on the associated ballot item, ASTM ballot F15 (24-08) item 1.

The primary topics of discussion were the following:

- *Incident Data and Propping Language.* At the request of one of the attendees, the co-chair revisited and summarized the incident data, with particular emphasis on where the incidents occurred. Most incidents occurred in a bassinet, crib, or playpen, with adult beds and couches/sofas also identified as common locations. Based on this information, the attendee who made the request suggested deleting the bullet item in the suffocation hazard section of the warning that directs the consumer to never leave or prop the baby alone in the product and merging this with the propping-related bullet item in the fall hazard section. After discussing the issue, the TG concluded that the propping-related bullet item should remain in the suffocation hazard section. The TG also discussed the possibility of omitting both bullet items based on the performance requirements, which are intended to address nursing pillow use for lounging. CPSC staff and others stated that both the performance requirements and warning language were needed to fully address the use pattern; the TG agreed.
- *Minor Revisions to Warning Content.* The TG agreed to several minor revisions to the warning content for clarity and consistency, including the following:
 - Stating to use the product only “to feed” baby, rather than “for feeding” baby.



- Changing a reference to “prop” baby to instead say “prop up,” consistent with similar language later in the warning.
 - Changing a reference to “the product” to instead say “this product,” consistent with other language in the warning.
 - Changing language in the fall hazard section from “beds, sofas, or any raised surfaces” to “beds, sofas, or other raised surfaces.”
- *Reference to an “Awake” Baby.* CPSC staff raised the question of whether the portion of the warning that tells consumers only to use the product for feeding should refer to “an awake” baby to reinforce the message that nursing pillows should only be used when the baby is awake. The TG concluded that such an addition was not necessary, given the other language in the warning.
 - *Initial Warning Statement.* The TG discussed possible revisions to the initial sentence of the draft warning, “BABIES HAVE DIED SLEEPING ON NURSING PILLOWS.” The two primary alternatives under consideration were, “BABIES HAVE DIED USING NURSING PILLOWS FOR SLEEP,” and the same statement with “OR LOUNGING” at the end. After extensive discussion, the consensus was that the sentence should read: “BABIES HAVE DIED USING NURSING PILLOWS FOR SLEEP OR LOUNGING.”

Next Steps:

The chair intends to revise the warning based on the discussions in this meeting and will send out the revised version to the subcommittee this week for review, with the expectation that a ballot will go out soon thereafter. The TG agreed that all future meetings of the task group could be cancelled.