


Table: 43 Infant Deaths Involving Crib Bumpers: Death Certificates/Autopsies/Investigations Matched to CPSC Team Review/Addressability*


NJ Scheers, Ph.D.




Deaths Reviewed for Journal of Pediatrics Article** (1985 - 10/31/2012)							CPSC Team Review of Deaths (1990-2016)/Addressability			Death Scene Recreations/Photos
Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	
2	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	Dec'd found in crib with face against the plastic bumper. "	A premature infant presents with cardiac arrest. Mom went in to check baby in crib found him with face against plastic bumper	1990	2	M	The victim's face was in contact with a bumper. However, details are limited and the reference to a "plastic" bumper raises some questions about whether this was a crib bumper or some other type of bumper (e.g., part of the apnea monitor that was present).	1	Unknown	
4	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	Police investigation and coroner's official reports note the father found infant "pushed up tight against the side rail padding and between the mattress and side rail padding" in a waterbed crib. She was face down and arms up. The initial cause of death was "accidental asphyxiation in crib." There were pressure marks about the left forehead, nose and left cheek regions. The Coroner's report further noted that the "decedent was found in the crib with her head down in the corner between the mattress and rail cover. The mother felt the decedent had 'suffocated'." In the early 1990s, SIDS was the diagnosis of choice. Crib bumper pads were in the crib as well as stuffed toys and a loose blanket.	1991	8	F	The victim was found face-down on a comforter-covered waterbed mattress, "next to" the bumper. According to the IDI, the victim was "not trapped" against the bumper, but was "pushed up tight" against it.	3	Unlikely	
6	FACE WEDGED IN CRIB BETWEEN PILLOW, MATTRESS & BUMPER ASPHYXIA; EXTERNAL FACIAL COMPRESSION (SUFFOCATION)	Diagnosis: Asphyxia due to external suffocation (compression of nostril and mouth when infant became wedged between bed cushion and crib bumper).	Infant was found "head wedged between cushion, crib bumper , and mattress." The victim was sleeping on a thick semi rigid homemade cushion in the crib, rolled off and fell between the cushion and the side rail. Cosleeping with twin. The autopsy notes "obvious blanching surrounding the nasal and mouth anterior face."	1992	2	F	The victim was trapped face down between the side rail and a thick homemade cushion in the crib. The report states that there was sufficient space between the mattress and crib to force a "bump pad," and handwritten notes refer to the victim being wedged between the cushion, bumper, and mattress. The ME concluded that suffocation was against the mattress.	6	Unlikely	
8	BABY BECAME WEDGED BETWEEN CRIB AND MATTRESS AT HOME SUFFOCATION	Hospital shut down and when reopened, records not available	Baby was placed in her crib for nap after being fed by her mother. Child was found later in her crib with her head wedged between the mattress and the bumper pad attached to side slats. Child was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital. Note: no mention in any of the documents of a gap, an ill-fitting mattress or a structurally defective crib. (Note: HS 1992)	1991	7	F	The victim was found with her head "wedged between the side of the mattress and the bumper pad," but the position of her face is unknown.	8	Unknown	


*CPSC staff definition of addressability --would the death have occurred if the bumper were not present in the sleep environment? "Likely," "Unlikely," "Unknown."



**Scheers NJ, Woodard D., and Thach B. Crib bumpers continue to cause infant deaths: A need for a new preventive approach. J Pediatr. 2016; 169: 93–97.e1.



Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
9	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	An infant placed prone to sleep was found prone and unresponsive by his mother. He was reported to be in good health. In 1992, CPSC was conducting a special study of infant suffocations in soft bedding. CPSC investigators conducted an extensive on-site investigation and photographed the death scene recreated by the infant's mother. The infant was found with his face on top of a comforter and wedged in a corner in the bumper pad that did not allow him to lift or turn his head. The medical examiner was unaware of CPSC's investigation results when he conducted the autopsy on the day after the infant's death, and finding no medical reason for the death, diagnosed it as SIDS.	1992	2	M	The victim was found prone with his face straight down into a padded quilt, with his head pressed toward his chest and the top of his head pressed into the corner of the crib. The top of his head reportedly might have been covered by the fringe of the quilt. The report specifically states that the bumper was not near the face.	9	Unlikely	
10	FOUND UNRESPONSIVE WEDGED BETWEEN PILLOW AND BUMPER PAD POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA	Circumstantial Summary: the mother found "the deceased face down in the crib, with the head wedged between a pillow that was covered with a blanket and the bumper pad on the inside of the crib."	Infant found unresponsive wedged between pillow and bumper pad . Mother found infant lying face down in his crib --his "head was sort of wedged between the pillow and bumper pads inside the bed." The investigator reported that "inside the bed were a pillow covered with a blanket, two baby blankets and a thick blanket used as a mattress pad and thick bumper pads surrounded the entire inside of the bed. There were toys, diapers, medicine for diaper rash and a small plastic bag in the bed. Some of these items were not in direct contact with the baby." The infant's face had a "pattern of skin marks [that] matches the pillow cover."	1993	1	M	The victim was found lying face down, wedged between a blanket-covered pillow and a thick bumper on side of crib. The victim had blanket-pattern markings on his face, suggesting that his face was either straight down into the thick blanket that was used as a mattress pad, or pointed toward the pillow.	10	Unlikely	
13	BABY'S HEAD WENT BETWEEN PILLOW AND PADDED CRIB WALL, FACE DOWN IN SOFT BEDDING - ASPHYXIA; SUFFOCATION-FACE DOWN IN SOFT BEDDING	Autopsy: "Asphyxia: suffocation - face down in soft bedding."	ME investigation report: baby was placed to sleep prone on a full size pillow. "Found her torso and legs still on the pillow but her head and neck were between the crib bumper pad and the pillow in a 4 inch area. Her full face was into the mattress." Born with ventricle septal defect – small hole in the heart. She had poor weight gain and a chronic cough.	1996	2	F	The victim was found prone with her head and neck in a 4-inch space between the bumper and a pillow, and her "full face was into the mattress." The victim was placed prone on the pillow, and her torso and legs were still on the pillow. The infant was described as a "sick child," with VSD, breathing problems, poor weight gain, and a chronic cough.	13	Unlikely	




Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
14	Not Available	Positional Asphyxia, accident. Opinion: "...was discovered on his abdomen in his crib with his face pressed against a bumper pad . He had a history of recent cold symptoms."	Infant found by his mother "facedown in his crib. He was laying on the left side of his face with his face in between the mattress pad and the bumper pad ." Father reported that there were some stuffed animals and books in the crib but that none were close to his son's head and nothing under his son's head. The baby was treated weeks ago for a head and chest cold with extensive breathing treatment. The family reported that the infant had a recent respiratory condition and treated for a few days with medication. On the night of his death, he was slightly congested but not on medication and had no severe distress of any kind.	1996	14	M	The victim was found "face down on stomach" with his face pressed against bumper. The police report states that the child was prone on the left side of his face, with his face "in between" the mattress pad and bumper. He had reportedly been sick and had been placed on a breathing machine. During CPR it was reported that he sounded "very congested and not getting any air in his lungs." He reportedly had reactive airways and distinct wheezing episodes.	14	Unknown	
15	SUFFOCATED IN CRIB - PROBABLE SUFFOCATION -	Opinion: "...died of probably suffocation when he became entrapped within his crib between the side wall of the crib and the edge of the mattress."	According to an investigator with the sheriff's department, the infant's mother found him face down in his crib. The investigator stated the baby's head got caught between a baby blanket and the bumper pad in his crib. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Note: no mention in any of the documents of a gap, an ill-fitting mattress or a structurally defective crib.	1997	2	M	The victim was found face down in crib. According to the Sheriff's office, his head was caught between a blanket and the bumper, but according to the autopsy report the child was entrapped between side of crib and edge of mattress.	15	Unknown	
16	ASPHYXIA BY COMPRESSION OF UPPER NECK WHILE WEDGED BETWEEN FURNITURE AND CRIB	External Exam by ME: Asphyxia by wedging. Abrasions, nose, anterior and posterior back.	Infant died of positional asphyxia, wedged between his crib railing and a dresser six inches away. Investigator noted that the child probably stood atop the bumper pad and climbed over the railing and became wedged. The infant was found "in an upright position with his chin resting on the edge of the dresser and the back of his head against the side rail of the crib," a scenario more likely to have occurred if he stood on bumper and fell facing the dresser. If he climbed over/ rolled over/crawled over the bumper/crib rail, he would be more likely to fall parallel to the crib. The crib support was in the second from lowest position and the distance from the top of the mattress to the top of the side rail was 15 inches. The bumper was 12 inches high.	1997	10	M	The victim climbed or fell out of the crib and became wedged in a 6-inch space between the outside of the crib railing and the adjacent dresser. A bumper was present, but there is no evidence of its involvement in this incident aside from speculation by the investigator that the child probably stood on the bumper to climb over the side. In addition, the difference between the height of the bumper and the top of the crib railing is small (12 inches versus 15 inches), and the child was a 10-month-old who was "very large" for his age, so the child could have climbed out without using the bumper.	16	Unlikely	



Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
20	POSITIONAL ASPHYXIATION	Summary: "The scene photographs of the crib...show the infant's face to have been in a corner of the crib and covered by a pad along the edge of the crib, which would cause asphyxiation due to obstruction of airflow. A crease noted on the infant's forehead is consistent with an impression from the edge of the crib and further supports this conclusion. "	Infant placed to sleep supine in the middle of the crib and found supine unresponsive. The babysitter stated that the baby's "face appeared to be buried in the corner of the bumper pad. " Pallor around nose and mouth and indentation in the bumper indicates that the baby's face was pressed into the bumper. The infant was treated for respiratory problems but his physician who treated him stated this "did not seem severe enough to cause his death." A pediatric forensic pathologist viewed the recreation photographs and agreed that these findings indicated positional asphyxiation.	1998	7	M	The victim was found on his back with his head turned to the right and his face into the corner of the bumper.	23	Unknown	
21	Not Available	Asphyxia by suffocation. "Infant became wedged between the mattress and the bumper pad of his crib."	Infant placed to sleep prone because he would cry lying supine. Father found the baby on his stomach in his crib with his "arms up and his face into the soft padding" surrounding the inside of the crib. The father also noted that the color around the infant's nose and mouth was white and the rest of his face was red. An indentation can be seen in the bumper in the black and white police photos taken at the death scene. The photos also show a sagging bumper and thick blankets that were present in the crib.	2000	4	M	The victim reportedly was found prone with his head slightly to the left and his face into or against the bumper. Staff cannot tell whether the face was truly into the bumper or in the area where the bumper and mattress intersect. However, HS staff determined that blanching and lividity reflect a prone, face-down position.	25	Unlikely	
26	FOUND DEAD WEDGED IN CRIB - ASPHYXIA; WEDGED BETWEEN PILLOW AND CRIB BUMPER	Asphyxia: wedged between pillow and crib bumper	Infant found lying prone and "wedged between adult pillows and a crib bumper. "	2001	3	F	The victim was found prone, wedged between adult pillows and a bumper. The Narrative states she was on an adult bed, but the report states that she was in her crib.	30	Unknown	
27	FACE AGAINST OVERSTUFFED CRIB BUMPER - ASPHYXIATION	Asphyxiation caused by pressure against an overstuffed crib bumper during sleep.	An infant was placed supine in a crib that did not have a mattress or a headboard. She was found unresponsive by her mother with her face extended backwards into the gap between the crib bumper and pillow. A makeshift mattress consisted of a thick blanket wrapped in a sheet and pillows used for the headboard. Several pillows were placed on their sides at the head and both sides of the crib. A crib bumper was not secured to the crib. The baby had a habit of arching her back in order to move. The CPSC investigator who contacted the ME, fire and police investigators noted: "The victim's face was against the crib bumper." The autopsy states, "Post mortem livor is noted on the back and face, however the nose is pale due to pressure."	2002	7	F	The victim reportedly was found on her back with her head extended backwards, below her shoulders, into a gap between an uninstalled bumper and a pillow, with her face against the bumper and pillow. The incident occurred in a crib with a "make shift" mattress consisting of a "very thick blanket wrapped in a sheet," which formed a 10-inch gap between the blanket and pillows. A pillow was used as headboard. The autopsy refers to an "overstuffed bumper," but the police referred to them as pillows and the police report stated that the head was between a pillow that was used as a mattress and a pillow that was used as a headboard. The only bumper visible in the report photos appears to be inaccessible because it is covered by pillows. Evidence suggests that the Investigator/ME misidentified a pillow as a bumper, and that the bumper was not involved.	31	Unlikely	



Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
28	Asphyxia; positional crib accident. Baby found face down in crib, pinned between bumper pad and sibling sister.	Consistent with positional asphyxiation. Reportedly found face down, wedged against crib side.	An infant placed prone for a nap in a crib was found wedged between the bumper pad and his twin sister with his face blue. History of acid reflux - doctor recommended to place prone or on side to sleep.	2002	4	M	The victim was found prone, wedged with his head face-down between the bumper and his sibling. He was 4 months old, but was 3 months premature.	32	Unlikely	
30	BABY SUFFOCATED AT HOME IN THE CORNER OF THE CRIB AGAINST THE CRIB BUMPER . SUFFOCATION - ACCIDENTAL.	Decedent was found dead in a crib with her face into a bumper pad .	Grandmother is the legal guardian of the twins who were cosleeping. She found the victim "with her face against the bumper pad in the corner of the crib" and reported that the impression on [the victim's] face indicated she was in the corner of the crib. The investigation noted that the bumper was sagging inward and the crib contained a padded comforter, a crocheted afghan and a blanket over the crib mattress. The grandmother stated that the crib mattress is very firm and the babies weren't accustomed to it, so she put the blankets over the mattress for extra comfort. She also stated that "both babies were accustomed to sleeping on their stomachs and couldn't get to sleep on their backs."	2003	3	F	The victim was found with her head in the corner of the crib and her face "into" the bumper, which was "sagging inward."	35	Likely	
32	FACE DESTROYED (sic) BY CRIB BUMPER PAD - POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA	The decedent was found dead in a crib with his neck extended and face buried in a bumper pad . His nose and mouth were completely blocked by the pad, confirmed by the lividity pattern on the decedent's face.	Infant found with his face against a bumper pad in his crib at home by his mother. The crib was bought at a garage sale and had "most of the hardware missing." Recreation photographs show the missing crib hardware does not appear to have an effect on the bumper, which is secured to the crib with no sagging. The indentation in the bumper indicates where the infant's face was buried in the bumper pad.	2003	2	M	The victim was found with his neck extended and face buried into a bumper. His nose and mouth were completely blocked by the bumper. The crib was missing most of its hardware.	37	Likely	
34	Asphyxia due to suffocation by obstruction of nose and mouth.	Cause of Death: Asphyxia due to suffocation by obstruction of the nose and mouth. Found unresponsive in crib with face wedged between mattress and bumper . Other Significant Findings: Chronic anoxic encephalopathy due to meconium aspiration at birth (significant brain injury at birth)	Mother found the infant unresponsive lying prone with her face wedged between the crib bumper and the mattress. This was the first time the baby had rolled over. There was no bedding on the mattress with just the plastic cover present.	2004	19	F	The victim was found with her face "wedged between the crib bumper and the crib mattress." The cause of death was suffocation by "obstruction of nose and mouth."	39	Unknown	



Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
35	FOUND UNRESPONSIVE IN DEFECTIVE CRIB - POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA - AUTOPSY YES.	According to the scene investigation, the corners of the crib mattress were unsupported due to ill fitted wood slats. The infant was found in a corner of the crib with its face buried in a quilt and bumper pads .	Infant was found unresponsive by her parents in a crib at her home. The parents received the crib from a relative who purchased it from a thrift store. The crib was missing the mattress support so the parents used five cut pieces of wood that were too long and put them on an angle allowing the corner of the mattress to depress. The crib contained a bumper pad , toys, a quilt and a blanket. The victim was found face down in an area that was depressed. Note: the bumper would contribute to wedging making it very difficult for the infant to raise her head and turn her face to the side to avoid suffocating.	2004	4	F	The victim was found face down on a quilt, with the top of her head in contact with the bumper. The crib had makeshift mattress supports installed at angle, which allowed the corner of the mattress to "depress." The victim was found in this "depressed" area.	40	Unlikely	
36	HEAD COMPRESSED AGAINST CRIB BUMPER WITH ARM WEDGED BETWEEN CRIB AND MATTRESS - ASPHYXIA DUE TO COMPRESSION OF HEAD AGAINST CRIB BUMPER	Cause: Asphyxia due to compression of the head against crib bumper . Manner: Accident (head compressed against crib bumper with arm wedged between crib and mattress)*	Infant died from asphyxiation when she was found unconscious by her father in her crib with her head compressed against the crib bumper . Her arm was wedged between the crib and the mattress according to the ME autopsy report and the death certificate. Note: no mention in any of the documents of a gap, an ill-fitting mattress or a structurally defective crib.	2005	4	F	The victim was found face down, with her arm wedged between the crib and mattress. A bumper was present, and the autopsy report identified the cause of death as "asphyxia due to compression of head against crib bumper."	41	Unlikely	
37	TRAPPED FACE-DOWN AGAINST PADDING IN THE CORNER OF THE CRIB - PENDING, POSITION ASPHYXIA	Positional Asphyxia; accident. Opinion: "...died as a result of position asphyxia, trapped face down against the padding in the corner of the crib. "	"Nanny found baby had rolled from her original position to the other side of the crib with her face up against the side rail bumper pad. " Reenactment was completed but photos not available.	2006	5	F	The victim was trapped face down against the padding in the corner of the crib. The face also reportedly was against the bumper. It is unclear whether the face was pointing into the area where the mattress and crib side intersect, but HS staff concluded that the face was likely into the mattress.	42	Unlikely	
38	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	SIDS; Medical Examiner Reporting Form states "victim's face was up against the crib's bumper pad when found."	An infant was found unresponsive in his crib by his mother. The mother reported that the "infant had scooted up on the mattress and the right side of his face was against the side of the crib pad. She suspects he smothered or suffocated. " The ME Reporting Form states: "His face was up against the crib's bumper pad when found."	2006	4	M	The victim was found prone with "the right side of his face" against the bumper. He had been put to sleep on a pillow, so he might have been wedged between it and the bumper.	43	Unlikely	
40	Positional Asphyxia	Positional asphyxia - found prone in corner of crib with cheeks abutting mattress/blanket and bumper pad .	Infant placed to sleep supine, found prone with "head between the railing and a round "mat." A bumper pad was around the inside of the crib." Recreation showed a stain on the mattress where the decedent's nose and mouth would have been. The stain was toward the head of the crib on the left side near the bumper pad."The cheek/temple area would also have been in contact with the bumper pad." Recreation photographs show a blanket on top of the mattress and two blankets bundled up at the foot of the crib.	2007	4	F	The victim was found prone with her face in the corner of the crib, toward a round "mat" in crib. The so-called "mat" might be a bumper, which is known to have been present. A stain near the bumper and the assertion that nothing was removed from the crib seems to support this. The victim reportedly was not "face down" on the blanket, and was found with her "cheeks abutting mattress/blanket and bumper pad."	46	Unknown	


Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
42	POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA. LYING FACE DOWN IN CRIB BUMPER BEDDING.	Death is "due to positional asphyxia while laying (sic) face down in thick soft crib bumper padding bedding at the corner of the crib."	The victim was found by his babysitter face down with his face on a bumper pad that "was pulled down like he was snuggling with it." She recreated the death scene showing a bumper under a doll's mouth and nose. The victim "always sleeps on his stomach, this is the only way he sleeps." The infant currently had an untreated ear infection and was on medication for oral thrush. Other bedding in the crib was a large blanket hanging over the north side of the crib and a portion of the blanket under the victim's head. A small thin blue blanket was in the crib and a corner on the victim's right knee. A toy was located across the south end of the crib on the interior.	2007	5	M	The victim was found prone with his mouth and nose straight down into a bumper that was pulled down. His arms were extended over his head.	49	Likely	
43	FOUND UNRESPONSIVE IN CRIB. SEQUELAE OF SUFFOCATION. ENTRAPMENT.	ME Opinion: "The decedent's body and face were pressed against the padding of the crib and one arm was entrapped between the padding and the rail sides. Based on all the information available to me at this time...[the baby] died as a result of suffocation due to entrapment."	An infant died of suffocation when her face and body were pressed against the bumper pad inside the crib. Her arm was caught between the bumper pad and the side rails, so she could not push herself up to breathe. The police photos seem to show that the bumper was not tied correctly to corner post. Police report a cluttered crib.	2007	2	F	The victim was found with her face and body pressed against a bumper. Her arm was under the bumper and caught between the bumper and crib side rails. Other items in the crib reportedly might have contributed to the fatality.	50	Unknown	
44	FACE BECAME PRESSED AGAINST CRIB BUMPER PAD WHILE SLEEPING - ASPHYXIA; SUFFOCATION	Opinion: "...22 month old male with severe cerebral palsy died as a result of asphyxia due to obstruction of the nose and mouth by the crib bumper pad when he maneuvered into a position while sleeping from which he could not extricate himself"	Infant was placed to sleep in an infant sleep positioner and was found by his father at the end of his crib with his face pressed against crib bumper pad . Infant had severe cerebral palsy and was developmentally delayed with "little muscle control." The father recreated the death scene but the photograph is not available. Note: Talked to ME - recreation of infant's position when found was not photographed.	2007	22	M	The victim was found on his left side at end of crib, between a bumper and an infant positioner under a sheet in the crib, with his face pressed against the bumper. However, the reenactment photos show the victim positioned with his face pointed away from the bumper. The victim was a 22-month-old with "severe" cerebral palsy, who had little muscle control and could not turn over.	51	Unknown	 Positioner
46	DECEDENT PLACED IN UNSAFE CRIB. POSTIONAL ASPHYXIA IN CRIB.	Positional Asphyxia in crib: Contributing factor: Chronic Interstitial Pneumonitis.	An infant with a stuffy nose was placed to sleep supine on top of a sofa cushion with her head slightly elevated. The baby was found deceased the next morning by her father "prone on top of a sofa pillow in her crib with her face wedged between the pillow and bumper pad ." Numerous other items and pillows were in the crib.	2008	2	F	The victim was found lying prone on a sofa cushion within the crib, with her face partially wedged face-down between the pillow/cushion and the bumper. Chronic interstitial pneumonitis reportedly contributed to this incident.	54	Unlikely	

Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Address-ability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
47	WEDGED BETWEEN BUMPER GUARD AND PILLOW. POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA.	Positional Asphyxia: dec found with face, nose and mouth in mattress and pillow.	A premature infant usually slept on top of a pillow because she was unable to sleep without it. Father reported that "when he went to check on her, she was on her side with her face wedged between a pillow and the crib railing with bumper pads ." The right side of her face was down and left side of her face was partially touching the rails of the crib. The infant had a history of acid reflux.	2008	3	F	The victim was found on her side with her face wedged between a pillow and the bumper-installed crib railing. The right side of her face was down into the mattress and pillow and the left side of her face was partially touching the "rails," so her face was likely pointed into the mattress or slightly into the bumper.	55	Unlikely	
49	Probable Asphyxia, obstruction of nose and mouth. Face wedged against bumper and mattress of crib.	Probable asphyxia due to obstruction of the nose and mouth. [The infant] was found unresponsive lying with his face wedged against the bumper of his crib and the mattress.	Infant was placed to sleep for nap supine on top of a large C-shaped nursing pillow. Police reports say the father found the baby had "flipped over, crawled up over the [nursing pillow] and his face was against the padded bumper and mattress that were in the crib" with his "mouth up against the bumper almost wedged between the mattress and the bumper." No mention in the case report (investigation, autopsy, death certificate) that the nursing pillow was involved in the death. Other objects in crib included quilts, blankets, toy bottle, book, wall clock. The recreation photograph shows a police officer pointing to where the child was found lying on his side with his mouth/nose wedged against the bumper pad and mattress.	2008	2	M	The victim was found lying on his side with his face wedged between or against the comforter-covered mattress and the bumper. His mouth reportedly was up against the bumper and "almost" wedged between it and mattress. A nursing/positioning pillow was close to where child was found, but there is no mention of contact with the pillow.	57	Unknown	
54	Suffocation due to or as a consequence of SIDS.	Asphyxia with pulmonary (A) edema, (B) focal pulmonary hemorrhage. Opinion: [Name] died of position asphyxia. She was found in a crib facing the mattress bumper . There are no physical injuries or natural diseases contributing to her death.	Mother reported that the baby was placed prone to sleep covered by a blanket. She was found prone 12 hours later turned 180 degrees and "wedged face down between the mattress and the crib padding ." The top of her head was resting against a stuffed toy. When found victim's face and skin was pale blue in color.	2010	4	M	The victim was found with her face wedged down between mattress and bumper, facing the bumper and with the top of her head resting against a "womb bear" (stuffed toy). Other parts of the report claim that the face was "face down" when the victim was found. HS staff concluded that lividity was consistent with a face-down position. A comforter was under the victim.	63	Unlikely	
56	2-MONTH-OLD MALE DECEDENT ASPHYXIATED IN CRIB AT HIS RESIDENCE. CAUSE OF DEATH: SUFFOCATION.	Suffocation, history that the decedent was found unresponsive, prone in his crib against/near a soft fabric bumper	An infant was placed prone to sleep because he could not sleep supine and was found unresponsive in a crib with his face against a crib bumper . The ME's investigator reports that the father was not sure if the decedent's nose or mouth was obstructed but that the baby's head/face was against a cloth bumper inside the crib. "There is a moderate size wet spot and reddish colored stain on the fitted sheet. The stain was located near where the bumper and the mattress intersect on the side of the crib...the bumper also appeared to be wet but it was difficult to tell if it was stained due to the pattern on the bumper." There was a fitted sheet on top of a mattress and a comforter bunched up against the inside of the crib.	2009	2	M	The victim was found prone with his head against the side of the bumper-covered crib, but his exact position is unclear because the person who found him was not wearing his glasses. From the available evidence, including emesis stains on mattress, HS staff concluded the face was likely into the mattress.	65	Unlikely	 Wet Spot

Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
58	A 6 MOM DECEDENT FOUND IN CRIB WITH FACE BETWEEN BUMPER PAD AND MATTRESS. SUFFOCATION IN NON-STANDARD SLEEPING ENVIRONMENT.	Findings: Suffocation in non-standard sleeping environment: (A) infant reportedly found face-down with face wedged between mattress and bumper pads of crib; (B) numerous pillows, blankets and stuffed animals present within the crib.	Victim was placed supine in the middle of his crib for a nap. Mother found him two hours later "in the corner of the crib with his head angled down in the corner and his left arm over the bumper pad. " He was given CPR at the scene and died the next day in the hospital. In recreating the scene, the mother reported that the baby's left arm was over the pad and he appeared to have been pulling the bumper pad toward his face. The bumper pad appears to be incorrectly tied to the crib. Toys and blankets were also in the crib at the time of the incident.	2010	6	M	The victim was found prone or on his right side against a bumper in the corner of the crib. His head was angled down in the corner and his left arm was over the top of the bumper. His face was wedged between the mattress and bumper or was pressed into the bumper. A blanket was on the mattress that was under the child.	67	Unknown	
59	Asphyxia; wedging of face in mattress.	The cause of death is attributed to asphyxia from the face being wedged between a crib bumper and mattress. The baby reportedly rolled over a positioner and was found in the above described position.	Victim died when he rolled completely out of a sleep positioner and became stuck at the corner of the bumper pad . He was found by his father turned on his stomach with his face against the bumper pad and mattress. No mention in any of the official documents that the sleep positioner was involved in the wedging. Father reported baby had a viral fever 2 weeks before death, went to the hospital for 2 nights, and put on antibiotic. Fever gone in 24 hours. Family and infant had been ill with flu like symptoms and vomiting on the night of the infant's death. Diagnosed with infant asthma, but autopsy found no evidence of asthma. Parent used the positioner to prevent the baby from rolling over and also getting a flat head.	2010	1	M	The victim was found prone between a sleep positioner and a bumper, with his face where the bumper meets or intersects with the mattress. He recently was diagnosed with infant asthma.	69	Unknown	 Positioner
60	Probably positional asphyxia. Sleeping in crib with [infant recliner] became wedged between device and bumper .	Probable positional asphyxia. Case Summary: The decedent was found unresponsive in her crib lying between a padded crib bumper and an [infant recliner]. Autopsy did not reveal any evidence of trauma, congenital anomaly or disease to account for her death.	Victim was found unresponsive in her crib lying between a nursery product and a bumper pad. She "somehow fell sideways on the [infant recliner] and her head fell back in such a way that her face was pressed between the [infant product] and the baby bumper and she smothered to death." The caregivers did not use the harness because the baby did not normally move around a lot on the seat. The caregivers used the infant recliner to prevent acid reflux.	2010	6	F	The victim was found wedged or lodged between an infant recliner and a bumper. She reportedly was lying on her back, perpendicular to the recliner, with her head tilted back off the edge of the recliner and her face into the bumper.	70	Unlikely	
61	Cause Redacted	Probable positional asphyxia.	Forensic investigator on scene and took photos (not available for review). Child placed to sleep on top of an adult pillow and found with his face wedged between the pillow and a thin cloth bumper pad in the crib. Purge was noted on the bumper pad and pillow.	2010	1	M	The victim was found with his face wedged between a pillow and the bumper. He had been sleeping on the pillow and apparently rolled off, so his actual face position is unclear. Purge on both the pillow and bumper suggest that his face might have been straight down.	71	Unknown	

Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
62	Positional Asphyxia,	Positional Asphyxia, accident.	Infant's father found the baby and recreated the scene with a doll. Investigator reports "The position appears to be 8-12 inches west of the middle of the crib where the baby's face was down in the pillow and the head was against the crib bumper ." When the father found the baby, he was blue in color and expelled breath. There was a wet spot on the pillow that goes to the edge of the bumper where the baby was found face down (see photographs). In the crib were a pillow, 2 comforters, a blue towel, a dinosaur toy.	2010	3	M	The victim was found face down in the corner of an adult pillow, with his head against the bumper. The victim apparently "turned his head and suffocated on the edge of the pillow."	72	Unlikely	 <p>Wet Spot</p>
63	Positional asphyxia: infant in prone position with face against crib bumpers .	Positional asphyxia consistent with wedging.	Baby placed to sleep prone with her arm sticking through the slats of the crib. She was placed prone because she slept better that way. She shared the crib with her twin sister. The crib had a thin cotton sheet covering the mattress and a cotton blanket to cover the twins. Mother reported she found the baby face down with one arm positioned between the crib's bumper padding and the mattress. Coroner advised the Sheriff's department that [Name's] face was pressed against one of the soft bed bumpers while CPSC's investigator reported that the coroner stated asphyxiation was due to her face being against the crib mattress.	2010	2	F	The victim was found prone with her face against the mattress. The coroner and sheriff reports state that the face was against the bumper, but the coroner states that this is incorrect and that the face was actually into the mattress. One of the victim's arms was over the top of the installed bumper and between two crib slats. The coroner stated that the positional asphyxia "was not due to the crib bumper, and that the crib bumper was not involved in any way other than the victim having her arm over top of it." The arm was not trapped or impeded from removal while between slats.	73	Unlikely	
64	Suffocation due to an unsafe sleep environment. Infant wedged between crib bumper and pillow holding a bouncy chair.	Suffocation in an unsafe sleep environment. Conclusion: The infant was reportedly sleeping unstrapped in a bouncy chair placed on a pillow in her crib and found later unresponsive wedged between the bumper pad of the crib and the pillow holding the bouncy chair.	An infant was placed unstrapped in a baby bouncer inside her crib to sleep. The bouncy chair had been propped up on the bottom with a pillow to level it so that it would be horizontal rather than on an incline. A blanket was placed on top of the bouncer and another blanket was used to cover the infant. The crib's guard rail had been removed to allow the crib's mattress to be level with the bed so the mother could have easy access to the baby to breast feed. The infant was found on the side of her crib mattress at the bottom of the bouncer wedged between the crib bumper pad and the pillow holding the bouncer chair.	2010	1	F	The victim was found lying partially prone on her side, wedged between the bumper and a pillow, which was propping up an infant bouncer that was in the crib. The victim's head was toward the bed's headboard, and her face was toward the bumper. The victim was 5 weeks old and "not that mobile."	74	Unknown	
65	Position/Compression asphyxia. Entrapped between a [infant recliner] and bumper pads in crib .	Died of position/ compression asphyxia sustained when she was entrapped between a [infant recliner] and bumper pads in the crib.	An infant was placed to sleep in a harnessed infant recliner which was placed in a crib with bumper pads. When the victim's father checked the video monitor he did not see the victim in the infant recliner. He went into the bedroom and found the victim not breathing, still harnessed in the infant recliner with her head hanging off and tilted back with the neck hyper-extended and her face in the bumper pad of the crib. The mother bought the item because the infant had projectile vomiting 1-2 times a day and she wanted to prevent acid reflux.	2010	4	F	The victim was found halfway out of an infant recliner, with her head hanging off and tilted back so her face was into the bumper. Her head was entrapped between the recliner and the bumper. HS staff concluded that this was a case of neck hyperextension.	75	Unlikely	

Case	DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative	AUTOPSY Narrative	INVESTIGATION Narrative	Date of death	Age mths	Sex	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
66	Positional Asphyxia (Wedging). Positional Asphyxia sustained when became wedged between crib pads and pillow.	Positional asphyxia (wedging). Infant found with face between pillow and crib bumper .	Infant was placed to sleep supine with his head and torso resting on a nursing pillow. Underneath the pillow were a baby blanket and a quilt that was covering the infant's feet. His mother found him face down with his head tilted to the left, wedged between the nursing pillow and the bumper on the crib.	2010	4	M	The victim was found face down with his head tilted to the left, wedged between a nursing pillow and the bumper. Based on the reenactment photos, his face appears to be into the pillow.	76	Unknown	
69	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.	Victim was found unresponsive, lying perpendicular to and on top of a foam baby recliner installed in his crib. When found the victim's head was hanging off the recliner and his face was pressed against a crib bumper affixed to the side of the crib. The death scene was recreated by the mother who found the infant. The infant had severe acid reflux and the caregivers used the infant recliner to prevent acid reflux.	2011	4	M	The victim was found lying on his back in an infant recliner. He was turned perpendicular to the recliner, with his head hanging off and his entire face pressed into the bumper. The very top of his head was resting on the mattress. The ME insisted that the cause of death was SIDS, not asphyxia. HS staff concluded that this was a case of neck hyperextension.	80	Unlikely	
70	Not available.	Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID). [Victim] was found face down in bed with his face into his bedding, suggesting possible asphyxia as a cause of death but this is not conclusive. As the cause of death remains unknown with certainty and accidental asphyxia cannot be excluded, the manner of death also remains undetermined.	Infant was placed in an infant recliner with the cover and the harness missing. The infant recliner was also placed inside a full size crib with a bumper pad. About 2 hours later the victim's mother found the victim unresponsive, in a prone position with his head entrapped between the top wall of the infant recliner and the crib wall and/or the top of the bumper pad . The Mother reported that the victim's face was downward and that it had not fallen all the way to the crib mattress surface. His head was up at the level of being near the top of the cushion, crib rail and/or the bumper pad. The caregivers used the infant recliner to prevent acid reflux.	2012	7	M	The victim was found prone with his head entrapped between side of an infant recliner and the bumper-installed crib side.	84	Unlikely	
71	Not Available	Suffocation by bedding. Became wedged between crib padding and adult pillow.	Baby placed prone to sleep on top of a full size adult pillow. The contents of the crib included the adult pillow, bedding, a baby blanket, a stuffed animal and bumper pads . Child was not on medication but took an over-the-counter supplement for gas. Decedent was found unresponsive by his father wedged between crib pads and full size adult pillow.	2012	1	M	The victim was found wedged between the bumper and an adult pillow.	86	Unknown	
**Five deaths from the 1980s from Journal of Pediatrics Article										
1985	Not Available	[Infant]... died due to asphyxia due to compression of the neck by cord.	The victim's father found him strangled on a loose bumper pad tie.	1985	7	M	CPSC staff review begins in 1990			

<i>Case</i>	<i>DTH CERTIFICATE Narrative</i>	<i>AUTOPSY Narrative</i>	<i>INVESTIGATION Narrative</i>	<i>Date of death</i>	<i>Age mths</i>	<i>Sex</i>	CPSC Team Review (Epidemiology Memo)	Record #	Addressability	Death Scene Recreations/Photos
1987	TIE OF BUMPER PAD BECAME TANGLED AROUND NECK - CEREBRAL ANOXEMIA AND ANOXIA; LIGATURE COMPRESSION OF NECK VESSELS	Cerebral Anoxemia and Anoxia, Minutes, due to ligature compression of the neck vessels, Minutes.	Baby died from anoxia in her crib when a crib bumper pad tie wrapped around her neck.	1987	7	F	CPSC staff review begins in 1990			
1989	Not Available	[Redacted] one of a twin, 6 month old, female infant died due to asphyxia due to compression of the neck by cord. The manner of death is classified as accidental	Infant died from asphyxia due to strangulation after she apparently placed her head through a loop formed by tied fabric attachment strings of a bumper pad in a full- size crib in which she was placed for a nap. Apparently, victim could not extricate her head from the loop and the string tightened around her neck. Accident occurred at home of victim's grandmother, who had been babysitting victim & her twin sister for more than four months before the accident.	1989	6	F	CPSC staff review begins in 1990			
1988 a	BABY WEDGED BETWEEN MATTRESS AND SIDES - MECHANICAL ASPHYXIA; BEING WEDGED BETWEEN CRIB MATTRESS AND BUMPER PADS	"The cause of death is mechanical asphyxia secondary to being wedged between the crib mattress and sides."	The victim was found by his mother "face down in his crib with his face between the mattress and the bumper pads . "Not ill prior to this and appeared to have been thriving." Note: no mention in any of the documents of a gap, an ill-fitting mattress or a structurally defective crib.	1988	2	M	CPSC staff review begins in 1990			
1988 b	MATTRESS & CRIB PAD CAUSING SUFFOCATION - PULMONARY EDEMA & CONGESTION OF LUNGS -	Records not available before 1989	Mattress and crib pad causing suffocation - pulmonary edema and congestion of lungs - autopsy yes. Note that "crib pad" is often used by ME to describe a crib bumper.	1988	2	F	CPSC staff review begins in 1994			