

MEDICAL DEVICE SAFETY NOTICE

Hospital Beds in Paediatric Wards

IMB Safety Notice: SN2006(01)

MANUFACTURER / SUPPLIER

Various

TARGET GROUPS

Hospital Managers
Clinical Directors
Risk Managers
Purchasing Managers
Nursing Managers
Paediatric Ward Sisters
Health Services Executive (HSE)

ISSUE

The risk of small children becoming entrapped in the side rails of adult size hospital beds.

BACKGROUND

The Irish Medicines Board (IMB) has been advised of two incidents that occurred in Europe where a child became entrapped in the side rails of adult size hospital beds. The outcome of both incidents was fatal.

Following an initial investigation of this issue the IMB has established that is a possible problem that could occur in Irish hospitals.

Action or Recommendations

- Ensure that the appropriate staff is advised of this notice
- Review the current practice in your hospital and initiate the appropriate measures to reduce the likelihood of a similar incident occurring in your hospital

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NOTICE

- Use **appropriate sized** patient beds
- If paediatric beds are not available for children then ensure appropriate “risk limiting” measures are taken e.g. the use of side guards / adequate supervision etc.
- Advise the IMB of the practices you have put in place in your institution

ENQUIRIES

All adverse incidents relating to a medical device should be reported to the:

Irish Medicines Board
Medical Devices Department
Kevin O'Malley House
Earlsfort Centre
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

If you have any enquiries, you may contact the Medical Devices Department at:

Telephone: +353-1-6764971
Fax: +353-1-6344033
Email: medicaldevices@imb.ie
Website: www.imb.ie

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