

CHILD SAFETY BLOG

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Infant Deaths Prompt Baby Hammock Recalls

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This week the Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a voluntary recall of 24,000 motion beds for babies, [writes Jennifer Kerr](#) of the Associated Press. Manufactured by Amby Baby of USA and sold online through its website since 2003, Amby Baby Motion Beds consist of a steel frame and a fabric hammock that has mesh sides and hangs from a spring. The bed gently swings as the baby moves, a feature designed to resemble babies' motion in the maternal womb.

Although many babies have found comfort in these hammock beds, there is a hidden risk of suffocation: as the bed moves back and forth, babies could roll and become trapped or wedged against the fabric or the mattress pad. In fact, as Jennifer Kerr reports, two infant deaths in the United States have been associated with Amby Baby Motion Beds, which prompted the CPSC's recall of the product.

In her story, Jennifer Kerr quotes Nancy Cowles, executive director of Kids In Danger, "There is currently no safety standards that would cover hammocks." Kerr says that safety advocates maintain that it's safest for babies to be "in cribs or bassinets with a firm bottom support and no soft bedding, gaps or other points where they could become trapped."

The CPSC urges parents to immediately stop using the hammock beds for the safety of their babies.

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