

Safety Fact Sheet

Jolly Jumpers

What are Jolly Jumpers?

Baby jumpers, often called Jolly Jumpers, are a type of play equipment. They are designed to support a baby or child, who is not yet able to stand, in a semi-standing position. Jumpers consist of a sling-like seat which is hung from the top of a door frame using a clamp or suspended within a tripod frame. The baby or child's feet touch the floor allowing him or her to bounce up and down by pushing his or her feet against the floor.

How may children be injured when using jolly jumpers?

Falls

- The clamp holding the jumper in place may break, causing a baby to fall.
- The jumper straps attaching the seat to the clamp may break, causing a baby to fall.

Struck by object

- Babies in the jumper may sustain injuries if other children push the jumper into doorways.

How common are these injuries?

While it is known that babies have sustained injuries from jumpers, there are no published statistics available.

Is there a Law or an Australian Standard for Jolly Jumpers?

There are no laws or Australian Standards relating to Jolly Jumpers. Please keep in mind the safety reminders below when choosing a Jolly Jumper.

Remember:

The Children's Hospital at Westmead recommends that you do not use a jolly jumper with children who have developmental delay, children who are toe walkers, premature babies and children with increased tone (stiffness) in their legs.

(These comments are based on clinical experience, as there is no research evidence at present).

If you decide to use a jolly jumper, please consider the safety advice below.

- Only use a jumper when your child is able to sit up unaided.
- Choose a jumper that is appropriate for your child's height, weight and age.
- If using a second hand jumper, ensure that all parts are intact and in working order.
- Carefully select a doorframe that can support the weight of the jumper and child, and follow manufacturer instructions when installing the jumper on the door frame.
- Check that the clamps and straps are properly secured before placing your child in a jumper.
- Teach siblings not to push or pull the jumper while a child is in it.
- When not in use, remove the jumper from the door frame.
- Always supervise your child when in a jumper.
- The Children's Hospital at Westmead recommends that you check for products that have been recalled (www.recalls.gov.au) prior to buying or borrowing an item for use.

This fact sheet is for educational purposes only.

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