

American Academy
of Pediatrics

Ohio Chapter



**Injury Prevention
Initiatives**

EASE MOC II: Module 3

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Where Should Infants Sleep? A Comparison of Risk for Suffocation of Infants Sleeping in Cribs, Adult Beds, and Other Sleeping Locations

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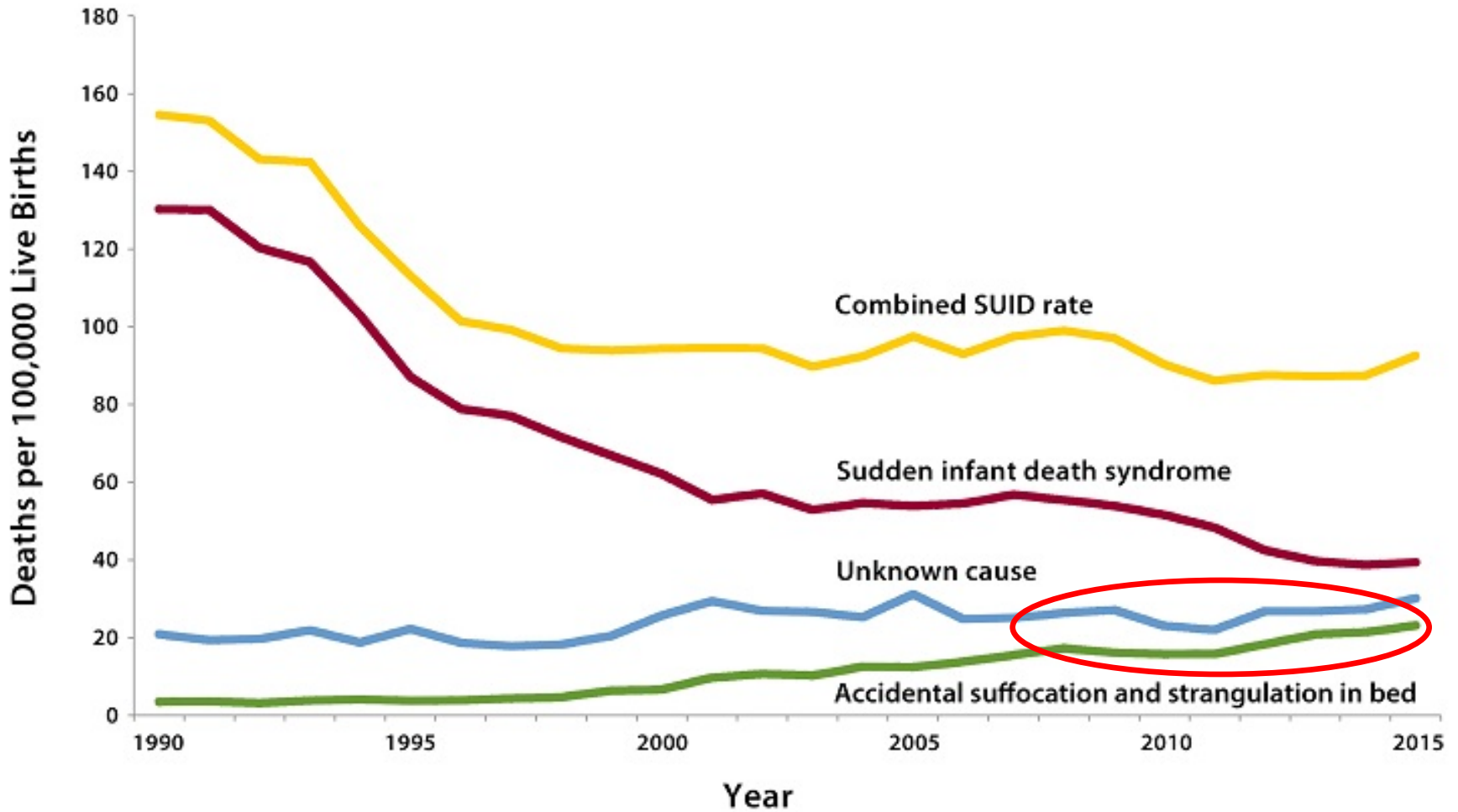
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History

- Over the past 20 years, the rate of SIDS (unexplained) infant deaths in the United States has decreased
- However, the rate of infant sleep deaths caused by suffocation, asphyxia, and strangulation has increased over time



Source: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System,
<https://www.cdc.gov/sids/data.htm>

Trends

- Researchers reviewed all infant accidental suffocation deaths between 1980-1983 and 1995-1998 reported to the United States CPSC
- Trend showed increasing number of suffocation deaths over time
 - 513 cases in 1980's
 - 883 cases in 1990's

Sleeping Locations

- Most infants who died were in cribs, adult beds, or sofas or chairs
 - Decrease in crib suffocation death rate from 37% (1980's) to 12% (1990's)
 - Increase in adult bed suffocation death rate from 30% (1980's) to 44% (1990's)
 - Increase in sofa or chair suffocation death rate from 6% (1980's) to 12% (1990's)

Deaths in Cribs

- Entrapment, soft bedding were most common dangerous issues
 - 208 of 299 deaths due to entrapment
 - Due to loose/broken/too wide slats, broken crib rails, too-small mattress
 - 29 of 299 deaths due to soft bedding



Crib Safety Standards

- Mandatory crib safety standards in place since 1973
 - Requirements for side height
 - Appropriate slat spacing ($2 \frac{3}{8}$” between slats—width of a soda can)
 - Appropriate mattress fit
 - Appropriate corner post height
 - Drop rail cribs no longer manufactured!



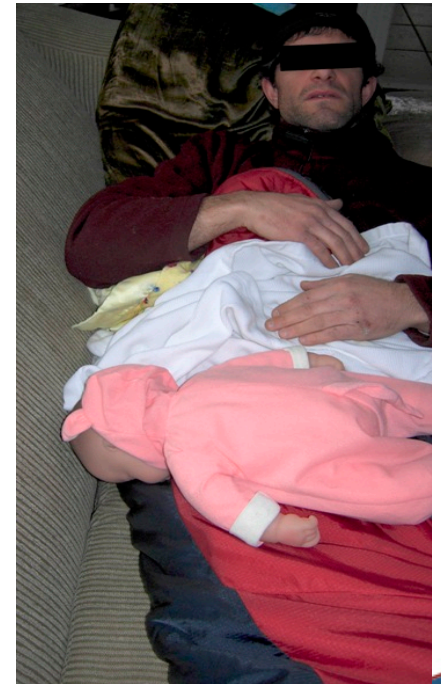
Deaths in Adult Beds

- Entrapment was most common dangerous issue
 - Between the bed and wall (52%)
 - Between the headboard or footboard and mattress (30%)



Deaths in Sofas and Chairs

- Entrapment, overlay were most common dangerous issues
 - Average age 2.8 months
 - Majority of deaths occurred when infant shared the surface with another person



Risk of Death

TABLE 4. Risk of Suffocation Death in Cribs Compared With Adult Beds per 100 000 Infants <8 Months Old: 1995–1998

Year	Cribs				Adult Beds			
	Deaths	Living Infants in Cribs	Risk	95% CI	Deaths	Living Infants in Adult Beds	Risk	95% CI
Total	68	10 851 403 (70%)	0.63	0.49–0.79	348	1 366 184 (9%)	25.5	22.8–28.2
1995	23	2 846 700 (73%)	0.81	0.51–1.21	79	272 971 (7%)	28.9	22.9–36.1
1996	13	2 685 131 (69%)	0.48	0.26–0.83	91	272 404 (7%)	33.4	26.9–41.0
1997	13	2 677 817 (69%)	0.49	0.26–0.83	92	388 089 (10%)	23.7	19.1–29.1
1998	19	2 640 841 (67%)	0.72	0.43–1.12	86	433 571 (11%)	19.8	15.9–24.5

The risk of death from suffocation in an adult bed is nearly 40 times higher than the risk of death from suffocation in a crib!

- Thank you for completing this module!
- Please remember to answer all of the test questions to earn credit for this month!

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