



JPMA Child Restraint System Hypothermia/Heat Stroke Position Statement

Juvenile products manufacturers are working to bring the latest innovations to market to advance safety, convenience and care to consumers. The technologies incorporated into child restraints both by regulation and voluntary innovations are proven to save lives and prevent injuries in the event of a crash. In the case of hyperthermia, we are seeking information and technologies that might assist in preventing hyperthermia or heat stroke deaths when a child is unintentionally left in a vehicle. However, to date, none of the technologies available on the market today have proven reliable.

In fact, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) along with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) studied 18 devices and found all had limitations including alarm sensitivity, interference from other electronic devices, misuse or failures from food contamination such as juice and the ability to disarm the device when a child fell asleep on the alarm. Additionally, there is concern that these devices will give adults a false sense of security. The two organizations determined these devices, while well intentioned, are ineffective.

Until a fail-proof technology is developed, we are committed to providing information and education to assist parents and caregivers in preventing these tragic deaths.

- Never leave a child unattended in a car. The internal heat of a car can rise by 20 degrees in 10 minutes.
- Put your purse, briefcase or phone in the back seat or on the floor in the back of the vehicle so you will see your child when you retrieve it.
- Place a soft toy near your gear shift or the passenger seat as a reminder there is a baby on board.
- Set a calendar alert on your phone about your day care drop off responsibilities and set up a system either by phone call or text to confirm you have dropped your child off at day care or school.
- Make it habit to check the front and back seat of your car every time you walk away from it.
- Lock your car at all times so it is not accessible to young children playing.
- Teach children that a car is not a toy and to not play in or around the car.

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