CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Petition Requesting Requirements for Buckles on Child-Restraint Systems on Various Children's Products

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission has received a petition (HP–00–1) requesting that the Commission develop requirements for buckles used on child-restraint systems on such products as strollers, high chairs, changing stations, and shopping carts. The Commission solicits written comments concerning the petition.

DATES: The Office of the Secretary must receive comments on the petition by March 6, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments, preferably in five copies, on the petition should be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207, telephone (301) 504–0800, or delivered to the Office of the Secretary, Room 501, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814. Comments may also be filed by telefacsimile to (301) 504–0127 or by email to cpsc-os@cpsc.gov. Comments should be captioned ''Petition HP–00–1, Petition for Child-Restraint Systems.'' A copy of the petition is available for inspection at the Commission's Public Reading Room, Room 419, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rockelle Hammond, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504–0800, ext. 1232.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission has received correspondence from John A. Galbreath requesting that the Commission issue a standard for buckles used on child-restraint systems on such products as strollers, high chairs, changing stations, and shopping carts. The petitioner relies on his own experience, CPSC's NEISS data, and a recent research study on stroller buckles to conclude that child-restraint systems on various children's products are ineffective. He states that these buckles are not sufficiently child-resistant and can be defeated by children. The petitioner requests that the Commission issue a standard requiring that such buckles meet a test for child-resistance. The Commission is docketing the correspondence as a petition under provisions of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, 15 U.S.C. 1261–1278.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the petition by writing or calling the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504–0800. A copy of the petition is also available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Commission's Public Reading Room, Room 419, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

Dated: December 29, 1999.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Cancer Treatment Clinical Trials Demonstration Project.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties of an extension of a demonstration project in which the DoD provides CHAMPUS reimbursement for eligible beneficiaries who receive cancer treatment under approved National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute (NCI) clinical trials. Participation in these clinical trials will improve access to promising cancer prevention and therapies for CHAMPUS eligible beneficiaries when their conditions meet protocol eligibility criteria. DoD financing of these procedures will assist in meeting clinical trial goals and arrival at conclusions regarding the safety and efficacy of emerging therapies in the prevention and treatment of cancer. At this time, there is insufficient demonstration data for a full evaluation of costs associated with enrollment in clinical trials. Extending the demonstration until the termination of the NCI/DoD Interagency Agreement will allow sufficient time for patient accrual to clinical trials and collection of data, which allows for comprehensive economic analysis. This demonstration also affects TRICARE, the managed health care program that includes CHAMPUS. This demonstration project is under the authority of 10 U.S.C., section 1092, and expires upon the termination of the NCI/DoD Interagency Agreement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: COL Karen Ferguson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681–3628.

A. Background

On January 24, 1996, the Department provided notice in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 1899) of an expansion of an existing demonstration for breast cancer treatment clinical trials to include all cancer treatment clinical trials under approved National Cancer Institute (NCI) clinical trials. The demonstration purpose is to improve beneficiary access to promising new therapies, assist in meeting the National Cancer Institute's clinical trial goals, and arrival at conclusions regarding the safety and efficacy of emerging therapies in the treatment of cancer. The January 24, 1996, notice anticipated the possibility of extending the demonstration.

The NCI trials program is the principal means by which the oncology community has developed clinical evidence for the efficacy of various treatment approaches in cancer prevention and therapy. Participating institutions include NCI's network of comprehensive and clinical cancer centers, university and community hospitals and practices, and military treatment facilities. Despite this extensive network which includes the nation's premier medical centers, cure rates for most types of cancer remain disappointing, highlighting the significant effort still required for improvement. The principoal means by which advances in therapy will be realized is through application of research to victims of cancer. In support of NCI's efforts to further the science of cancer prevention and treatment, the Department expended its breast cancer demonstration to include all NCI-sponsored phase II and phase III clinical trials. It further expanded the Interagency Agreement to cover cancer prevention clinical trials on June 21, 1999. This expanded demonstration will enhance current NCI efforts to determine safety and efficacy of promising cancer prevention and treatment therapies by expanding the patient population available for entry into clinical trials and stabilizing the referral base for these clinical activities. While this demonstration provides an exception to current CHAMPUS benefit limitations, the Department hypothesizes that this increased access to innovative cancer prevention and cancer treatment therapies will occur at a cost comparable to that which the Department has experienced in paying for conventional therapies under the standard CHAMPUS program.