



Japan Council for Quality Health Care

Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/
Adverse Event Information

Medical Safety
Information

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Falls from a Pediatric Bed

Eight cases have been reported in which a child patient fell from a pediatric bed (information collection period: from January 1, 2015 to August 31, 2019). This information was compiled on the basis of the content featured in the Analysis Themes section of the 47th Quarterly Report.

Cases have been reported in which a child patient fell from a pediatric bed because the bed rail was not fully raised.

Position of Bed Rail at Time of Fall	Number of Cases	Circumstances
Partly Lowered	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mother left her child's side because she did not realize that the bed rail had been lowered
Fully Lowered	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurse or accompanying parent took their eyes off the child

Image of case



*Pediatric beds are surrounded on all four sides by a bed rail, with sliding rails on the left and right that can be lowered or raised to between two and four different heights.

Falls from a Pediatric Bed

Case 1

The nurse partly lowered the bed rail, took the four-year-old child patient's blood pressure and listened to their chest with a stethoscope. Thinking that it would be alright because the patient's mother was there, the nurse then left the room without sliding the bed rail all the way back up. The mother did not realize that the bed rail was partly lowered and took her eyes off her child when cleaning up the child's urinal. While she was doing so, the child stood up on the bed, leaned on the rail, and fell down over it.

Case 2

The child patient, who was less than a year old, was sleeping on a pediatric bed whose rail had been fully lowered. The patient's mother was standing beside the bed, while the nurse had their back to the bed. When the nurse checked what items had been brought in at admission, the mother left her child's side while she took the items. During the short interval when both the mother and the nurse had taken their eyes off the child, they heard a thud and turned around to find that the child had fallen off the bed.

Preventive measures taken at the medical institutions in which the events occurred

- **Make it a basic rule that the rails on pediatric beds should be fully raised.**
- **Warn family members of the risk of falls from the bed as part of the explanation at the time of admission.**

The measures above are examples.
Please consider initiatives suitable for your own facility.

* As part of the Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/Adverse Event Information (a Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare grant project), this medical safety information was prepared based on the cases collected in the Project as well as on opinions of the "Comprehensive Evaluation Panel" to prevent the occurrence and recurrence of medical adverse events. See the Project website for details.

<http://www.med-safe.jp/>

* Accuracy of information was ensured at the time of preparation but cannot be guaranteed in the future.

* This information is intended neither to limit the discretion of healthcare providers nor to impose certain obligations or responsibilities on them.

