

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Log of Meeting**

SUBJECT: Bicycle Handlebars

DATE OF MEETING: May 8, 2002

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Barbara J. Jacobson

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: May 16, 2002

LOCATION:

Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

CPSC ATTENDEES:

Barbara Jacobson, Directorate for Health Sciences
Debra Sweet, Directorate for Epidemiology
Jason Goldsmith, Ph.D., Directorate for Health Sciences
Vince Amodeo, Directorate for Engineering Sciences
George Sushinsky, Directorate for Laboratory Sciences

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:

Members of ASTM F08.10.01 Task Group on Bicycle Handlebars and Stems
Kristy Arbogast, Ph.D., The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The agenda item of special interest to CPSC staff was the proposed scope of work to develop voluntary performance requirements for bicycle handlebars. The purpose of the new requirements would be to address abdominal injuries resulting from contact with a handlebar end during a fall from a bicycle. The Chairman of the Task Group reviewed the CPSC staff request to expand the preliminary scope of the work to include all children's bicycles. The Task Group explained that because there are so few members, there are limited resources to work on issues. They also expressed concern about a broader scope because different handlebar configurations may require different solutions for addressing the hazard. With CPSC staff concurrence, the Task Group decided to begin with the limited scope as defined at their November 2001 meeting, i.e., single speed bicycles with 20 inch wheels or smaller and riser (BMX-style) handlebars. The Task Group agreed to consider expanding the scope to other sizes and types of children's bicycles in the future. The Task Group clarified that their use of the terminology "spearing type injuries" was not meant to limit the scope to penetrating wounds alone. They also acknowledged the CPSC staff concerns that an effective solution to address the risk of blunt trauma to abdominal organs would require more than intact handlebar grips and end caps. Four members, including the Task Group Chairman, agreed to work on this issue. The CPSC staff and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia agreed to provide additional incident data and descriptions found in the medical literature to support the development of the performance requirements. The Task Group asked to review copies of questionnaires used to collect details about bicycle-related incidents. They expressed interest in adding some questions for future investigations.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place in November 2002, in Miami, Florida.

CPSC 6 (11) Closed 5/20/02
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