



CYP= Child/Young Person

Hospital		Ward	
Date of Assessment		Time of Assessment	

**The purpose of this risk assessment is to ensure that cot & bedrails are used only when 'necessary and appropriate' and that when they are required, they are used safely with any risk factors considered as outlined in the MHRA guidance (MHRA, 2023).**

### Guidance

- Complete the risk assessment to identify the most appropriate cot or bed.
- Based on clinical judgement, consider what the Child/Young Person (CYP) sleeps in at home as this may differ from the risk assessment outcome. Discuss with the CYP and family/carers.
- Discussions should include the potential risks and safety steps to be taken.
- All cots and beds to be at lowest height when staff/family are not attending to CYP.

Question	Tick	Recommendation	Action
1. Is the Child under 18 months old or do they sleep in a cot at home?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low Risk</b> <b>Recommendation - Cot</b> Rails to be placed in highest position when cot in use	Go to Q.5
	No <input type="checkbox"/>		Go to Q.2
2. Is the CYP likely to fall out of bed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Go to Q.3
	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low Risk</b> <b>Recommendation - Bed without paediatric bedrails/sides</b>	Go to Q.5
3. Is the CYP likely to climb over bedrails/sides?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Medium Risk*</b> <b>Recommendation - Bed without paediatric bedrails/sides</b> *Communicate risk at safety briefing/ handover. Consider additional safety measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floor mats (possible trip hazard)</li> <li>• Increased supervision</li> <li>• Mattress only- no frame (consider CPR)</li> </ul>	Go to Q.5
	No <input type="checkbox"/>		Go to Q.4
4. Does the CYP have any of the following, which increase the risk of injury or entrapment from bedrails/sides? <input type="checkbox"/> Communication problems <input type="checkbox"/> Confusion/ agitation/ hyperactivity <input type="checkbox"/> Learning disability <input type="checkbox"/> Repetitive or involuntary movements <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired or restricted movement <input type="checkbox"/> Altered consciousness <input type="checkbox"/> Larger/smaller than average body size <b>Note: Question only relevant when bedrails/sides recommended</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>High Risk *</b> <b>Recommendation - Bed with paediatric bedrails/sides</b> *Communicate risk at safety briefing/ handover. The following safety measures should be considered to reduce the risk of injury/entrapment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss risk and supervision with CYP, family/carers</li> <li>• Consider use of floor mats (potential trip hazard)</li> <li>• Ensure the bed is at lowest height when staff/family are not attending to the CYP</li> </ul>	Go to Q.5
	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low Risk</b> <b>Recommendation - Bed with paediatric bedrails/sides</b>	Go to Q.5



5. What is the outcome? (Please tick one in each column)

<input type="checkbox"/> High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/> Cot
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium risk	<input type="checkbox"/> Bed without rails (If integrated rails/sides, consider signage to prevent routine use)
<input type="checkbox"/> Low Risk	<input type="checkbox"/> Bed with rails

6. Is the CYP and/or the family/carers happy with the recommendation?  
 Yes   
 No   
 Document summary of discussion and actions agreed with CYP/family/carers:

7. Safe sleep advice given?  
 Yes   
 No   
 N/A

  
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Additional Information:  
 Consider variations during the 24 hours and actions required, clinical judgement, safe sleep discussions, additional safety measures.

Reassessment due date	__/__/__	Re-assess weekly or if condition changes (including weight loss/gain)
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**Guidance:**  
**If beds with adult bedrails are used for Paediatric patients (under 1.46m) this is a high risk.**  
 Consider the following actions if beds with Paediatric bedrails are not available:

- Use adult bedrails for the oldest/larger CYP.
- Use the bed at the lowest height when staff/family are not attending to the CYP.
- Change to Paediatric bedrails as soon as possible.
- Communicate risk at handover/safety briefing.
- Communicate risk to CYP and family/carers.
- If CYP is alone, increase frequency of observation.
- Escalate risk and/or complete Datix.

**Assessment completed by:**

Name	Signature	Designation

Reference: Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (2023) Guidance. Bed rails: management and safe use.