Infant Sleep Permission Form

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends keeping soft objects and loose bedding (including blankets) out of the crib/playpen to reduce the risk of SIDS, suffocation, entrapment, and strangulation for infants under the age of 12 months. The AAP recommends the use of pacifiers for sleep. Studies have reported a protective effect of pacifiers on the incidence of SIDS. Pacifiers should be checked for tears before each use.

Effective January 1, 2013, ND Child Care Licensing Regulations state:

With written parental permission, the provider may place one individual infant blanket or sleep sack, a pacifier, and a security item that does not pose a risk of suffocation to the infant in the crib or portable crib while the infant is sleeping or preparing to sleep.

* Providers are not required to allow these items.

Parent/Guardian Authorization

I have read the information on this form and give ______________________________ permission to use the following checked item(s) when my infant ________________________ is sleeping or preparing to sleep:

☐ One infant blanket (a thin blanket is recommended)
  • A written order from a health care provider is required to use more than one blanket.
  • If infant is being swaddled, the blanket should not come any higher than to the shoulders of the infant; blanket needs to be loose enough for a hand to fit between the blanket and the infant’s chest; blanket should be kept loose around infant’s hips.
  • Swaddling is recommended by the AAP to be discontinued once the infant reaches 2 months of age or sooner if showing signs of rolling.
  • Licensing requires swaddling to be discontinued once an infant become mobile.
  • A written order from a health care provider is required to continue swaddling after an infant becomes mobile.

☐ Sleep sack
  • Swaddle sleep sacks (with arm panels) are recommended to be discontinued once an infant reaches 2 months of age or sooner if showing signs of rolling. Once the infant shows signs of rolling over or reaches 2 months of age, sleeveless sleep sacks should be used.

☐ Pacifier - not allowed to be attached to a clip/strap or to a stuffed animal or toy

☐ Security item (specify item) __________________________________________
  *Necklaces (including teething necklaces) are not allowed
  *Bibs are not allowed
  *Headbands should be removed

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print) __________________________________________

Parent/guardian Signature ___________________________ Date: _________________

** It is recommended to place a copy of this form in the infant’s file as well as post near the infant’s crib/playpen (out of infant’s reach) for providers/staff to reference.

Sources:
ND Child Care Licensing Regulations
SIDS and Other Sleep Related Infant Deaths: Updated 2016 Recommendation for a Safe Infant Sleeping Environment, AAP, Pediatrics, 2016
AAP News, June 2013

Form provided by Child Care Aware® of North Dakota Health Consultants.
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