

Bunk Beds – Place of Danger ?



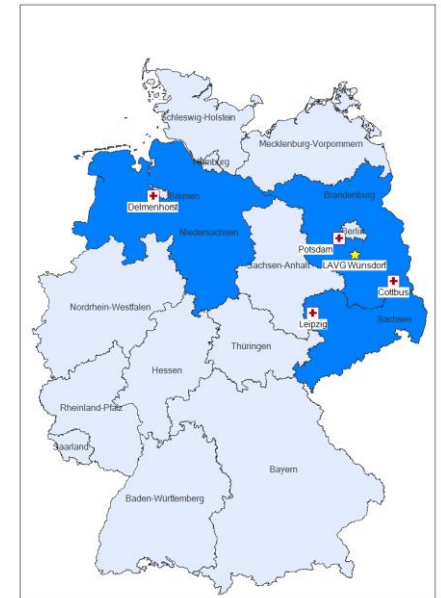
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- The European standard for bunk beds, EN 747-1, was amended in 2015 to introduce the need for manufacturers to mark bunk beds with either a warning text or a pictogram indicating that bunk beds are not suitable for children < 6
- Whilst applauding the amendment to this standard, we do however need to continue analysing the injury event in order to identify high risk groups and critical circumstances.
- Investigation of the German Injury Data Base

Method



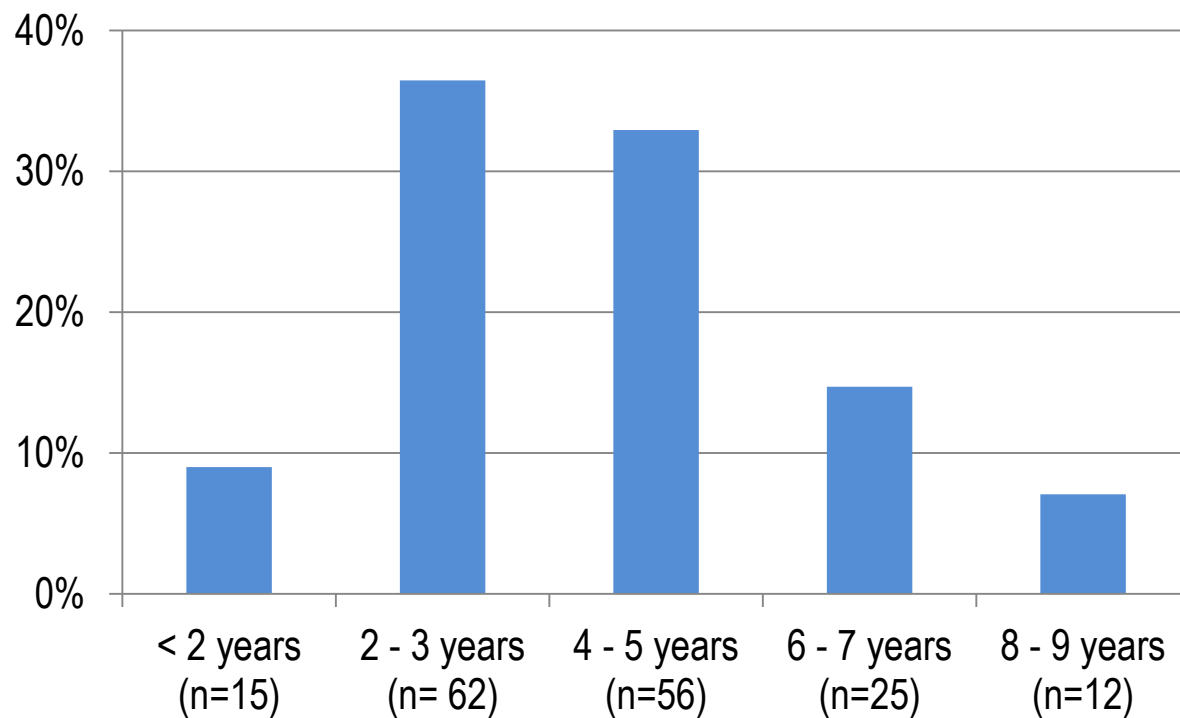
German IDB 2008-2014

- Case analysis of 10,332 medically treated injuries in the under 10 year-olds in 3 large hospitals
- Bunk bed injuries were counted when a bunk bed was named as a "trigger" or a "causing" factor (n=170)



Bunk bed related injuries n=170

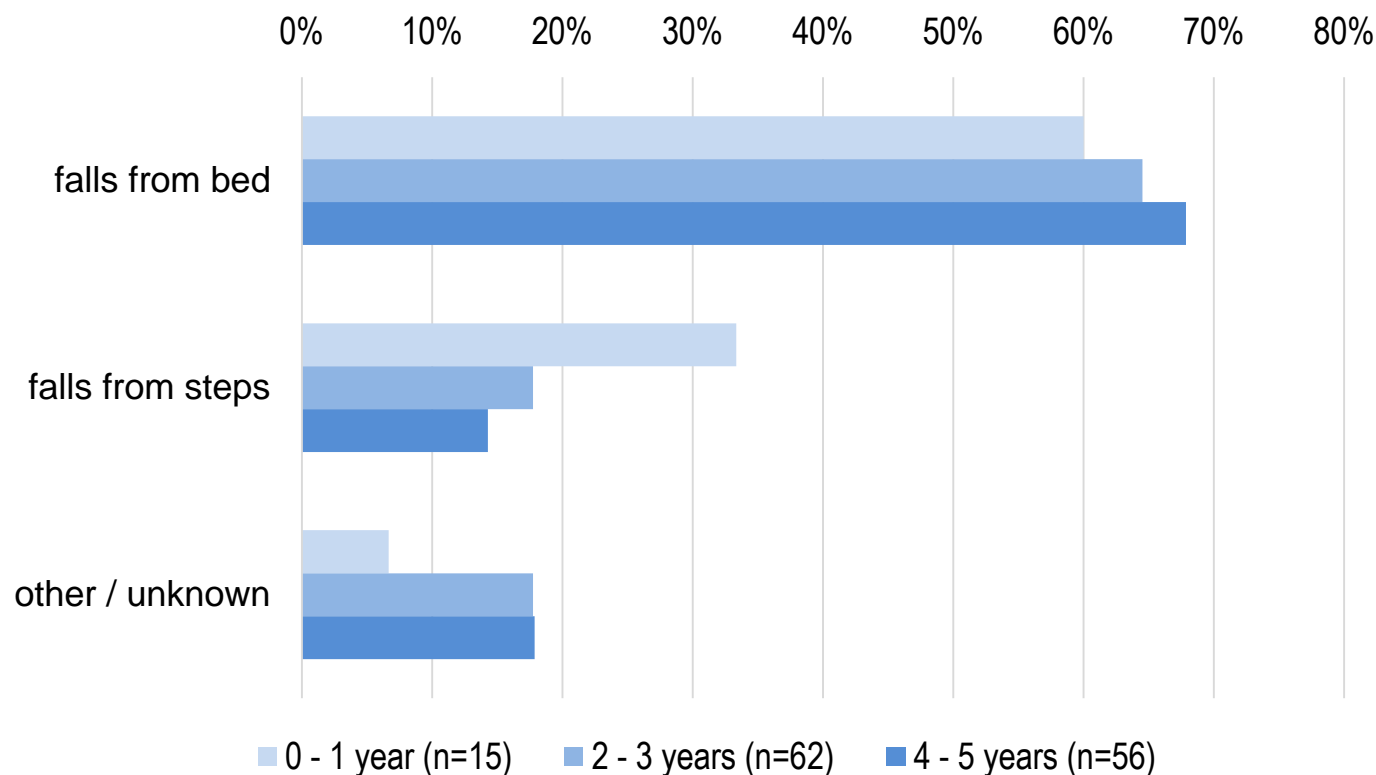
Bunk bed related injuries by age group



78% of injuries involving bunk beds occurred in the < 6 year-olds

The 2 most frequent injury events in < 6 year-olds

Injury event, in % of all bunk bed injuries



Falls from bunk bed are the most common injury mechanism.

The < 2 year - olds are at highest risk of falling from steps

Severity of bunk bed related injuries in under 6 year-olds (133)

- 56 % (73/133) hospital admissions
- 90 % (66/73) suffered severe head injuries

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Conclusion

- When buying bunk beds, parents are often unaware of the danger for young children.
- The amended European standard from 2015 was an important milestone.
- However, parental supervision is equally important. A parental education campaign would be valuable.



Thank you for your kind attention

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