

Health Canada's Policy on Infant Sleepwear Sizing Revised

In May 2017, Health Canada amended its policy on size requirements for infant sleepwear to harmonize the requirements with the U.S. Children's Sleepwear Flammability Regulations (16 CFR 1615).

With immediate effect, only when sleepwear fulfills the below requirements can be considered as infant sleepwear designed for infants not exceeding 7kg in weight:

- chest circumference less than or equal to 508 mm; and
- affixed with a label stating in months the age of the child for whom it is intended; the age must be 9 months or younger.

Children's sleepwear sold in Canada must meet strict flammability requirements as specified in the Children's Sleepwear Regulations (SOR/2016-169) to protect children from burns during bedtime. The flammability requirements for children's sleepwear vary according to the design. Sleepwear which qualifies as infant sleepwear designed for infants weighing up to 7 kg is classified as tight-fitting sleepwear; such sleepwear must have a time of flame spread of more than seven seconds. Sleepwear designed for infants up to 7 kg but with a chest circumference greater than 508 mm is classified as loose-fitting sleepwear and subjected to more stringent flammability requirements – an average char length for five specimens not exceeding 178 mm; and not more than one specimen with a char length equal to the full length of the specimen.

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