

Safely Home Car Seat Fitting Station

Did you know that 75 percent of car seats are installed incorrectly? Dominican Hospital and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford are offering a free car seat fitting station event for the community.

Saturday, April 21

9 a.m. to Noon

Dominican Hospital

3050 Paul Sweet Road, Santa Cruz

Corner of Paul Sweet Road & Soquel Drive

Made possible through support from the Dominican Hospital Foundation.

Space is limited. Offered by appointment – call Jennifer Blanke at 831.462.7266 (reservations accepted beginning April 3rd)

Certified technicians will offer the following assistance:

- Ensure the car seat has not been recalled by the manufacturer.
- Demonstrate how to install and use the car seat.
- Instruct how to correctly place child in the car seat.
- Offer tips on choosing the correct care seat based on a child's age, height, and weight.

Motor Vehicle Safety Fact Sheet (2015)

Child passenger safety

- Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death among children ages 1 to 19.¹⁸
- The overall critical misuse for child restraints is about 73 percent.⁹
- Infant seats have the highest percent of critical misuse, followed by rear-facing convertible seats.⁹
- Booster seats have been shown to reduce the risk of serious injury by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone for children ages 4 to 8 years.¹⁹
- Children should ride in a back seat until they are at least 13 years of age.^{6,7}
- Children 2 to 5 years of age using safety belts prematurely are four times more likely to suffer a serious head injury in a crash than those restrained in child safety seats or booster seats.⁸
- When installed and used correctly, child safety seats and safety belts can prevent injuries and save lives. Child safety seats can reduce fatal injury by up to 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers (ages 1 to 4).⁶
- It is estimated that 284 children were saved due to restraint use in 2012 alone.¹⁰
- From 1975 through 2012, an estimated 10,157 lives were saved by child safety seats or adult seat belts for children ages 4 and under.¹⁰

References

⁶ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts, 2009 data: occupant protection. Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.

⁷ Committee on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention. Child passenger safety. *Pediatrics*. 2011; 127: 788-793.

⁸ Winston FK, Durbin DR, Kallan MJ, Moll EK. The danger of premature graduation to safety belts for young children. *Pediatrics*. 2000; 105(6): 1179-1183.

⁹ Decina LE, Lococo KH. Child restraint system use and misuse in six states. *Accid Anal Prev*. 2005. 37: 583-590.

¹⁰ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic Safety Facts 2012: Children. April 2014. DOT HS 812 011.

18 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Website. Leading causes of death, children ages 19 and under. . Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>. Accessed March 2013.

19 Arbogast KB, Jermakian JS, Kallan MJ, Durbin DR. Effectiveness of belt positioning booster seats: an updated assessment. *Pediatrics*. 2009; 124(5):1281-6.

Last updated January 2015. Factsheet provided by SafeKids Worldwide

