



For more information contact
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Preventing injuries:
at home,
at school,
at play,
and on the way.

Shopping Cart Injury

We Believe

Every kid has the right to grow up safe, healthy and free from injury.



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Shopping Cart Injury

Children are at risk of injury from:

- Running into carts
- Tipping over carts while climbing onto the outside
- Getting fingers and toes caught in wheels
- Falling or jumping from the cart
- Carts overturning causing children to be pinched in the folding mechanism of the seat or fall against the cart
- Children may suffer lacerations, cuts, bruises, fractures, concussions and internal injuries from shopping cart accidents.

The Facts are In.....

- Each year more than 20,000 children under the age of 5 are injured by shopping carts.
- Head injuries account for approximately two-thirds of all injuries associated with falls from a shopping cart.
- Approximately 5% of all shopping cart injuries in children under the age of 5 involved a child falling from/with a car seat placed on the shopping cart.

Did you Know?

- In 80% of falls from shopping cart seats, the children were unrestrained.
- Research has shown that even when shopping carts are equipped with safety restraints parents do not use them.
- Approximately 85%-90% of fall-related incidents occur inside grocery and department stores. The remainder occur directly outside the stores or in the parking lot.

Who Is At Risk?

- Children left unattended are at greater risk for shopping cart related injuries.
- More than 80% of parents/caregivers leave children unattended at least once while on a shopping trip, increasing their risk for injury.
- One- and two- year olds have the highest incidents of shopping cart-related injuries.

Steps to Safety

- Ask your older child to walk and praise him or her for behaving and staying near you.
- Always use safety belts to secure children in shopping cart seats. If the belt is missing or broken, select another cart and tell the store manager so a replacement can be installed.
- Use the shopping carts that have a wheeled child carrier that is permanently attached and made part of the shopping cart.
- Never leave your child alone or unattended in a shopping cart and stay close to the cart at all times.
- Do not let your child ride in the large part of the cart where you place groceries, under the basket, on the side or on the front of the cart.
- Do not let an older child push the cart with another younger child in it.
- Never place a rear-facing only infant carrier car seat on top of a shopping cart. This can be an unstable surface. Instead place the car seat in the large part of the cart where you place groceries and keep the child tightly buckled in their car seat.