



# Susy Safe Newsletter

An European Project on Foreign Bodies Injuries in the Aero-Digestive tract in Children

## GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA

### Foundation:

The Austrian Committee for Injury Prevention in Childhood, trading as „GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE“, was established by the paediatric surgeons Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hugo Sauer and Univ.Prof.Dr. Michael Höllwarth in 1983 to focus the attention of policy makers and the community at large on the need for improved child safety measures. The Committee is governed by an executive board consisting of paediatric surgeons, psychiatrists, lawyers and other members of the public. The headquarters of the Committee is Graz, the capital of Styria. Branch offices are situated in other capitals of the Austrian provinces in hospitals, mainly in the Departments of Paediatric and Adolescent Surgery or Paediatrics. Heads of these offices are medical doctors. GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA can be seen as Austria's lead agency focusing solely on the prevention of uninten-

tional childhood injury.

### Values

- The belief that prevention is better than cure
- Concern for children as the base of the welfare of Austrian Society

### Focus

The focus of the activity is the prevention of unintentional injury to children under the age of fourteen.

This means the prevention of:

- fatal injuries and injuries causing disability
- injuries happening frequently
- injuries easy to prevent

Based on the following key elements

Science and Research – Analyzing accidents

- Building up an Austrian wide powerful organization
- Building up a hospital network
- Information, education and building of awareness
- Improving safety measurements and guidelines
- Involvement of the politicians – lobbying and public education

### Vision

The purpose is to create “a safer world for our children” by leading the promotion of action to minimize unintentional injuries to children, which are the number one death threat to children.

### Objectives

Our objectives are established in the areas of

- Awareness and application of countermeasures
- Organizational development and
- Marketing which will collectively enhance public and institutional concern and attention to the prob-



lem and improve the Committee's capability and capacity to act as the lead agency in the field.

#### Target Audience

- Parents, grandparents, family members
- Families with children ages five and under
- Home owners, housing societies, landlords
- Midwives, general practitioners, paediatricians, paediatric surgeons, nurses
- Delivery and paediatric departments
- Day-Care mothers, foster-parents
- Insurance companies
- Officials in Health, Housing and Family departments
- Kindergartens
- Community groups
- School age children (6-14)

#### European Child Safety Alliance

GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA is member within the European Child Safety Alliance, a steering group composed of representatives of the

27 Member States of the European Union which is funded by the European Union. The focus is to create a long lasting platform to coordinate European promotions and advocacy work that will increase the profile of child injury prevention and place it on the political agenda, through the networks of dedicated national societies.

GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA participates in the semi-annual Alliance Steering Committee Meetings where advances in child injury prevention throughout Europe are elaborated and realized. GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA was one of the founding organisations 2001 and is bringing in its experience in practical work on child injury prevention and its medical expertise in data research.

#### Safe Kids Worldwide

GROSSE SCHÜTZEN KLEINE / SAFE KIDS AUSTRIA is the Austrian representative of Safe Kids Worldwide, an international alliance connecting organizations engaged in childhood injury pre-

vention all over the world. According to the World Health Organization, preventable injuries are one of the leading causes of death to children worldwide. Millions of children are also permanently disabled or hospitalized due to these injuries. The developing world is particularly devastated with its rate of childhood injury rapidly increasing. Safe Kids Worldwide is a network of childhood injury control programs that successfully link organizations, communities and the private sectors in effective philanthropy.

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## News

#### ESPO 2008– 8th International Conference of the European Society of Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology—June 8th-11th 2008, Budapest

The Susy Safe project was successfully presented with the presentation "The foreign body injuries in children: The Susy Safe project results"

#### 2nd European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion—October 9th and 10th 2008, Paris

The Susy Safe project will be presented with the abstract "WEB-based surveillance system as an effective tool for risk assessment and for fostering product safety: the Risk Estimation engine of the Susy Safe project".

## PAEDIATRIC BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (PBLS) GUIDELINES FOR CHILDREN WITH FOREIGN BODY AIRWAY OBSTRUCTION (FBAO)

The European Resuscitation Council (ERC) is an interdisciplinary council for resuscitation medicine and emergency medical care, with the objective to preserve life by improving standards maneuvers of resuscitation in case of cardiovascular arrest. There are the BLS (Basic Life Support) guidelines, feasible by anyone without any medical presidium and also by people without medical experience, and ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support), for medical staff and paramedics only, since they already include the use of drugs and similar. Until 1994 these guidelines was focused on adult patients only, since then the same guidelines were established for children. They consist in the same maneuvers adopted in BLS, but adapted on a pediatric organism and called PBLS (Pediatric Basic Life Support) and PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) respectively. The ERC issued new guidelines for PBLS based on the International Consensus of Sciences

published by the American Heart Association (AHA) in collaboration with the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR). These guidelines are disclosed by certificated courses, which are available anywhere in Europe and are recommended specially for school teachers, baby-sitters, etc.

The PBLS maneuvers include a serial of steps to perform in case the child doesn't breathe or is in cardiac arrest due to a foreign body airway obstruction (FBAO).

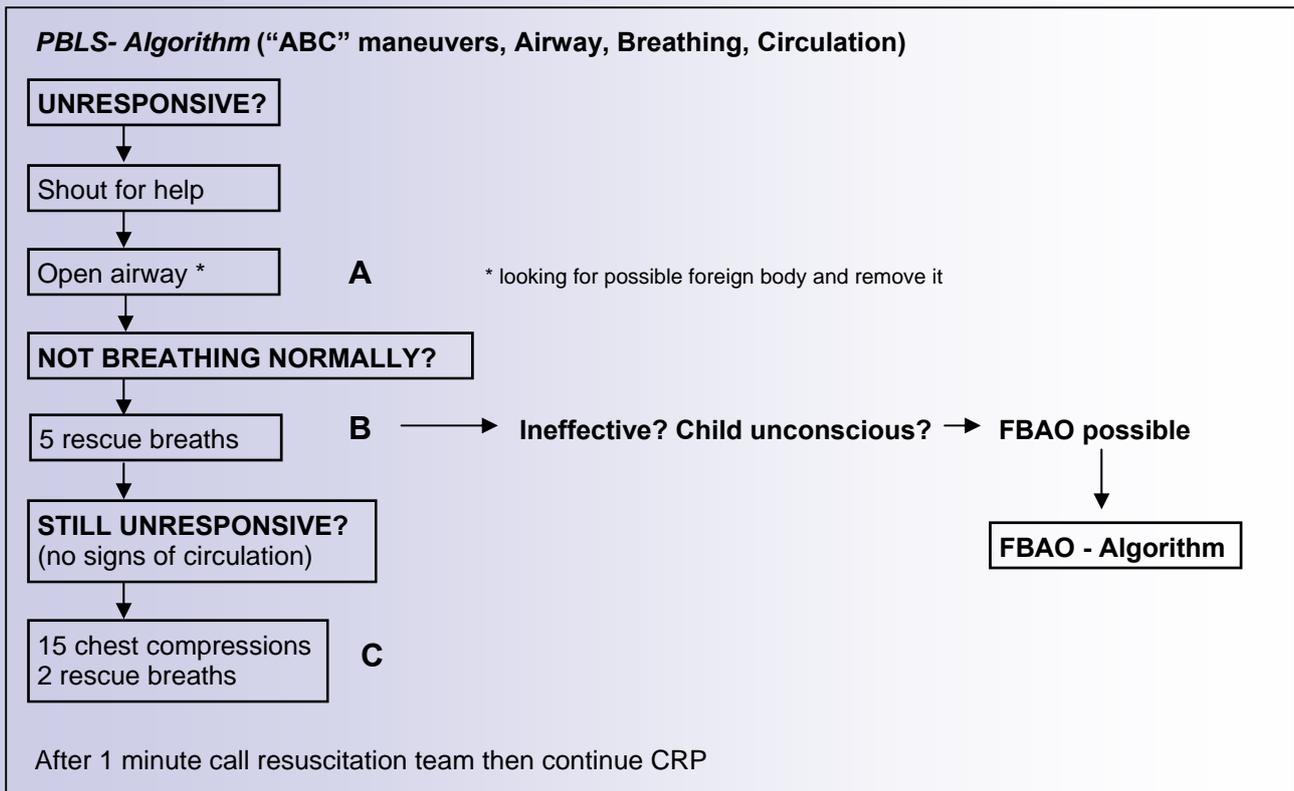
If a foreign body enters in the airway, the child responds immediately with coughing. However if the coughing is ineffective or absent and the foreign body obstructs completely the airway, the child rapidly chokes and a quick intervention to remove the foreign body can be helpful. Usually a foreign body in the airway could be noticed by adults or parents, if the child is playing with small objects or eating and starts coughing and/or choking, but it should be suspected

also in all children without airway respiratory infection history – to whom sudden coughing happen or children, who happen to have respiratory distress or in children in cardiac arrest, where is not possible to perform an artificial breathing during the PBLS maneuvers.

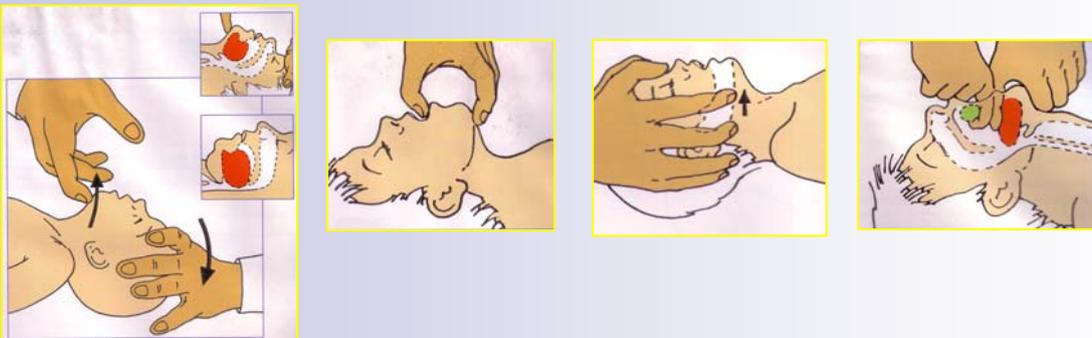
It is possible to download the PBLS-algorithm with the FBAO-algorithm and the complete ERC-guidelines on "www.erc.edu"

Further reading:

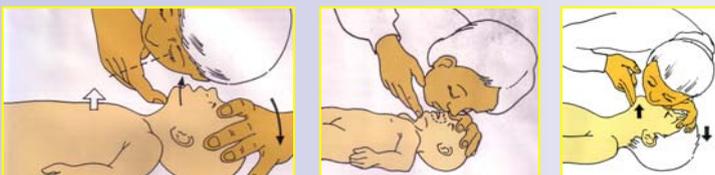
1. [www.erc.edu](http://www.erc.edu) (guidelines of resuscitation)
2. The ILCOR consensus on sciences with treatment recommendations for pediatric and neonatal patients: pediatric basic and advanced life support. *Pediatrics* 2006 117(5):955-977
3. Basic life support working group of the European resuscitation council. *BMJ* 1998;316:1870-6
4. [www.resus.org.uk/pages/pbls.pdf](http://www.resus.org.uk/pages/pbls.pdf) (guidelines pdf)



**A = Airways (open airways)**



**B = Breathing**



**C = Circulation**

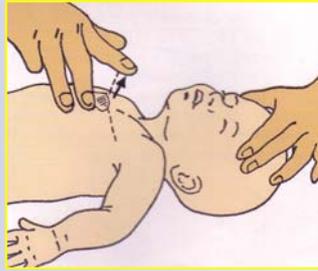
a. search signs of a circulation (10 sec)



Infant

Child > 1 year

b. chest compressions



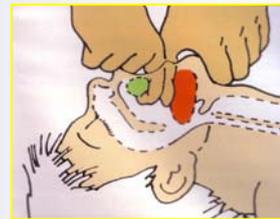
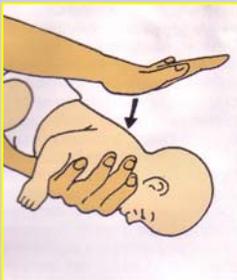
Infant < 1 year



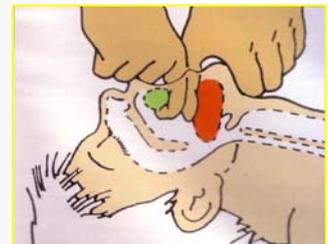
Child > 1 year

FBAO – Maneuver (5 back blows – 5 thrusts)

Infant (chest)



Child > 1 year (abdominal)



The pictures are taken from the PBLs—Paediatric Basic life Support manual, according to the IRC (Italian Resuscitation Council), 1997

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