



SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS)

Facts Parents Should Know

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME	
<p>Sudden Infant Death Syndrome(SIDS) or "crib death" is defined as the sudden and unexpected death of an apparently healthy infant which remains unexplained after a complete case study and postmortem examination is completed.</p>	
<p><u>SOME BASIC FACTS ABOUT SIDS</u></p> <p>SIDS is a definite medical entity and is the major cause of death in infants during he first year of life.</p> <p>Approximately 6,000 to 7,000 SIDS deaths occur annually in the United States.</p> <p>Statistically, SIDS deaths occur in 2 per 1,000 live births.</p> <p>The peak incidence is between two and four months of age.</p> <p>SIDS occurs in all socio-economic levels.</p> <p>SIDS victims appear to be healthy prior to death.</p> <p>At this time SIDS cannot be predicted or prevented, even by a physician.</p> <p>There appears to be no suffering; death occurs very rapidly, usually during periods of sleep.</p>	<p><u>WHAT SIDS IS NOT</u></p> <p>SIDS is not caused by external suffocation.</p> <p>SIDS is not caused by the type of feeding method used.</p> <p>SIDS is not caused by immunizations</p> <p>SIDS is not caused by child abuse or neglect.</p> <p>SIDS is not caused by over-heating.</p> <p>SIDS is not caused by vomiting or choking.</p> <p>SIDS is not contagious, it is not an infectious disease process.</p> <p>SIDS does not cause pain or suffering to the infant.</p>