CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAR SEAT FOR THE OCCUPANT WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Shayne Merritt

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- President of Merritt Manufacturing
- BS in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA
- Worked as an Engineer in automotive and nuclear industries
- Worked as a design engineer for Britax Child Safety and was the Director of the Automotive Safety program at Riley Hospital for Children

Conventional Seats

Rear Facing

- Kids with special needs often need prolonged head support
  - This is best achieved in an infant carrier or a rear facing conventional restraint

“Upgrading” to Forward Facing

- Sometimes medical professionals want to “upgrade” to a forward-facing medical seat
  - May want to use a feature that only a forward-facing seat offers
  - Overseas salesmen may suggest a medical seat, without taking the appropriate holistic approach to safety
Aftermarket Products

Navigating the market product conundrum...

What are some other escape deterrents that are crash tested and approved?

Maxi-Cosi Magella
- After considering all rear facing options, look for the forward-facing conventional seats with the best tilt (CP).

Car seats for children with special needs

AngelRide
- Low Birth Weight & Premature Birth
- Apnea
- Desaturation
- Gastroesophageal reflux
- Pierre Robin Sequence

The Carrot
- Cerebral Palsy
**The Chamberlain**

Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- ALS
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts
- Overweight/Obesity
- Halo Traction
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Achondroplasia

**The Churchill**

Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- ALS
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts
- Overweight/Obesity
- Halo Traction
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Achondroplasia

**Columbia 2000**

Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Achondroplasia

**EZ-On Products**

Medical Conditions
- Adjustable Zipper Vest
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts
- Cerebral Palsy
- Modified Laydown Vest
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy
- Body Casts
- Hip Spica Casts
- Braces

**The Hope Car Bed**

Medical Conditions
- Low Birth Weight & Premature Birth
- Apnea
- Desaturation
- Gastroesophageal reflux
- Pierre Robin Sequence
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts
- Hydrocephalus
- Osteogenesis Imperfecta

**The Jefferson**

Medical Conditions
- Omphalocele
Pilot
Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- Overweight/Obesity
- Achondroplasia

Quokka
Medical Conditions
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts

The Roosevelt
Medical Conditions
- Achondroplasia
- Cerebral Palsy
- Scoliosis
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder

Spirit
Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Achondroplasia

Wallaroo
Medical Conditions
- Cerebral Palsy
- Achondroplasia

Wallenberg
Medical Conditions
- Hip Dysplasia/Hip Casts
Insurance Coding

E1399 – Miscellaneous
T5001 – Child Safety Seat Specific
K0108 – Wheelchair Accessories

Are all special needs seats covered by insurance?

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