

# Canadian Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths Praises Halo Launch of Canadian In-Hospital Program



**Saint Catherines Ontario (April 13, 2011)** – The [Canadian Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths](#) (CFSID) is pleased to support the [Halo In-Hospital Program initiative](#) in Canada. As an organization dedicated to reducing the rate of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and the overall rate of infant mortality, we are appreciative of Halo's commitment to educating Canadian parents about safe sleep practices for their babies.

At CFSID, we believe that the key to reducing the rate of SIDS is through risk reduction education and awareness aimed at new and expecting parents. This can be accomplished through modeling recommended practices of safe sleep in hospital nurseries. Along with other leading health organizations, we agree that modeling proper care for a baby while in the hospital is the single biggest influence on how a parent will care for their child at home. The Halo In-Hospital program provides nurses and doctors in hospital nurseries with clear strategies to model safe sleep practices for parents.

You may be surprised to learn that loose blankets in a baby's sleep environment pose a risk of smothering and carbon dioxide rebreathing. As a safe alternative to the use of blankets, CFSID recommends the specially designed HALO® SleepSack® wearable blanket and SleepSack® Swaddle. Specially designed with infant safety in mind, HALO SleepSack wearable blanket and SleepSack® Swaddle, reduce the risk of baby's head becoming covered and of rebreathing, which have been associated with the incidence of SIDS. In addition, they promote the back sleeping position, which is the only recommended sleep position for infants and has been attributed to a significant decline in the rate of SIDS. Halo's in-hospital program replaces potentially harmful blankets with a safer alternative, modeling care practices that can reduce the risk of SIDS.

In conjunction with the Halo In-hospital program, CFSID encourages all health care professionals involved in infant care to become educated about SIDS and ways to reduce the risk. CFSID offers an on-line course, " Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) for Professionals" (available online at [www.sidscanada.org](http://www.sidscanada.org)) which is designed to provide education about SIDS

and strategies for reducing the risk. If you have any questions regarding CFSID's programs and services, please contact our National Office at 1-800-363-7437.