

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
COMPETITION AND CONSUMER ACT 2010

Consumer Protection Notice No. 35 of 2011

WARNING NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Pursuant to section 129 of Schedule 2 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, I, DAVID BRADBURY, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, warn of possible risks involved in the use of the goods specified below.

Particulars of goods

Amber teething necklaces and bracelets consist of amber beads which are a fossilised tree resin and range in colour from yellow to white and beige to brown. The products are sold by a range of suppliers under a variety of names.

Suppliers claim that when worn close to the skin, succinic acid will be released by the amber beads to relieve the symptoms of teething. Some suppliers also make claims for other conditions including eczema and asthma.

Possible risks

Testing of several of these products indicates that they can release small parts which could result in choking hazards to children under three.

Although most suppliers state that the product is not intended for mouthing, there is a risk that parents could be confused since many other 'teething' products are intended to be placed inside the child's mouth. It is also likely that unsupervised teething infants wearing amber teething necklaces or bracelets will mouth or chew the product.

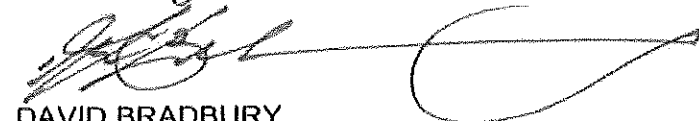
The therapeutic claims made by some suppliers for these products may also delay a parent from seeking medical attention for their child in a timely way.

Advice to consumers

Consumers using this product are advised to:

- always supervise the infant when wearing the necklace or bracelet
- remove the necklace or bracelet when the infant is unattended, even if it is only for a short period of time
- remove the necklace or bracelet while the infant sleeps at day or night
- not allow the infant to mouth or chew the necklace or bracelet
- consider using alternate forms of pain relief
- seek medical advice if you have concerns about your child's health and well being.

Dated this 30th day of September 2011



DAVID BRADBURY
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer