

Parents And Caregivers Can Reduce The Risk Of SIDS

(NAPSA)—There is nothing as devastating for parents than the death of their child. Unfortunately, 2,500 infants between the ages of 1 month and a year die annually from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), the leading cause of infant deaths in the United States. More than two-thirds of the deaths occur in the winter.

“The underlying cause of SIDS deaths is still a mystery,” said pathologist Gregory J. Davis, MD, FCAP, a physician who specializes in treating patients through laboratory medicine. “The good news is that we have been able to iden-



A safe sleeping environment is key to preventing SIDS. ®

tify some factors that put babies at risk for SIDS, especially during the winter.

“The baby’s sleep environment, for example, is an essential factor in preventing SIDS,” said Dr. Davis. “Physicians know that putting a child to sleep on his or her back in a safe crib with safe bedding *decreases* the chance of SIDS and *increases* the likelihood of a happy, healthy baby. Since educational programs about putting children to sleep on their backs started in 1994, SIDS deaths have decreased by nearly 40 percent.”

For additional information on SIDS, visit the College of American Pathologists’ Web site at cap.org.