

Demonstration: Straddle Hold

TRANSCRIPT

This position is referred to, I refer to it as a straddle hold. I like this one when the child is small enough to obviously fit in the parent's lap. But also notice that the child is turned away from anything that's happening. That always reduces anxiety a little bit. Notice that the parent is seated in a non-armed chair. The child's legs are straddled on either side of mom. And mom has her lower back and she's going to have to hold her firmly. Usually I tell the child, put your head on the mother or the father's shoulder, if they'll -- if they'll follow directions and they're not too upset. The arms of the child should be wrapped all the way around. And notice grabbing. And then I use the parent's gentle force -- gentle -- between the child, and the child's arms between the parent and the chair. If you have a terribly small child and a large father or male figure helping, be sure to tell them not to press too hard so that they don't crush the child's arms.

Minnesota Department of Health
Communications Office
PO Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-4989
health.communications@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4989.