



3160 Southgate Commerce Blvd. • Suite 50 • Orlando, FL 32806
tel 321.843.5271 • fax 321.843.5298 | HipDysplasia.org

April 26, 2018

Jeff Durkes
Director of Sales Regal+Lager
3350 Town Point Drive NW
Suite 100
Kennesaw, GA 30144

Dear Mr. Durkes,

The International Hip Dysplasia Institute (IHDI) acknowledges the Lascal m1 Carrier as a "hip-healthy" product.

The instructions show that the Lascal m1 Carrier is inward facing until 5 months. Inward facing is usually recommended by product manufacturers until the child develops head control around the age of three to four months. This is important to avoid serious injury. However, hip development is more likely to benefit from inward facing position until six months of age which is why the IHDI prefers inward facing until this slightly older age. When the infant is in the outward-facing position, the legs are often dangling downward and gravity is pulling the hips downward. In this position the effect of a narrow support combined with the weight of the lower extremity may cause slight displacement of the hip joint in children who have loose hip ligaments. Ultrasound studies have been performed on infants who have unstable hips and these studies have shown that moderate changes in position can increase hip displacement. In contrast, a study of muscle electrical activity during babywearing showed that infants activate their thigh muscles to grip the mother's torso when in the inward facing position. This additional muscle activity may help move an unstable hip into the center of the socket. Although we generally recommend against outward facing before six months, the Lascal m1 Carrier has good thigh support and the difference between five and six months is debatable. For these reasons, the IHDI can acknowledge the Lascal m1 Carrier as hip healthy.

The IHDI recognizes that Regal+Lager has developed products that consider the importance of healthy hip development during infancy. This is especially important during the early stages of hip development in the first few months after birth. We wish to recognize specific products as "hip-healthy" to help educate the public. Please contact us if you have other products that have been designed with consideration for physiologic hip development. There is a \$200 application fee for this review. IHDI reserves the right to rescind acknowledgment in the future upon receiving additional adverse information, or in view of new research that contradicts our current opinion.

For those products that are deemed "hip-healthy" by IHDI, Regal+Lager may include the IHDI logo and a link to our website (www.hipdysplasia.org) in marketing materials and other promotions for the specific products that have been acknowledged. Also, the following phrase may be used in marketing materials and other promotions by Regal+Lager, "The IHDI acknowledges the Lascal m1 Carrier as a "hip-healthy" product when used as directed." In addition your company name, the product name, and your website will be added to the *Hip-Healthy Products* section of the IHDI website.



INTERNATIONAL
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INSTITUTE®

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Please note that the IHDl is not recommending specific products for use and we are not certifying any products as safe for infant hips. However, it is our intention to acknowledge socially conscious companies that are doing their best to provide products to promote optimum hip development according to current knowledge of causes of hip dysplasia and according to current knowledge of infant positioning for proper hip development.

Sincerely,

Charles T. Price, MD, FAAP
Director International Hip Dysplasia Institute
Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Central Florida College of Medicine

CTP/slp