

Advice provided by Council for the Administration of Criminal Justice and Protection of Juveniles Summary for publication

Title : Safety bed in a young offenders' institution, amendment
of the Regulations mechanical aids for juveniles
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The safety bed as a 'mechanical aid' is a bed that almost totally restricts a person's movement: the arms, the legs, the upper and lower body are completely restrained; it is used for the protection of the juvenile itself or for the protection of others.

The Council dismisses the possibility of using this so-called safety bed on departments for intensive care and treatment in young offenders' institutions since it is a method that is too extreme. There is no lawful basis on which the safety bed can be used and its use will have to stop.

The Council is of the opinion that in the short term, the departments that are in charge of care and treatment will have to aim to optimize and improve the quality of the existing provisions. Examples are: adequate spaces where a juvenile person can be safely confined for a short time, a close cooperation with the residential and non-residential juvenile mental health care association (*ggz - geestelijke gezondheidszorg*) and the quality of its staff members. In 2008, the Council will elaborate in a wider context on the problems of mentally disturbed juveniles in young offenders institutions.