

## FUNCTIONAL DRESSING ITEMS FOR PATIENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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### Introduction

Each year, approximately 15 million babies are born prematurely (before 37 completed weeks of gestation) and this number is increasing. The rate of preterm birth ranges from 5% to 18% of babies born.

### Keywords

functional clothing products, anthropometric data, prematurity.

### Purpose

The main benefits that can be offered by clothing products for premature babies are:

- Improved thermoregulation: Babies stay better when clothed because they don't lose heat as easily.
- Less stress in the family: Parents of preemies who wear clothes tend to feel less stress around them. They interact more effectively with their babies because they worry less about medical conditions and focus more on the baby.

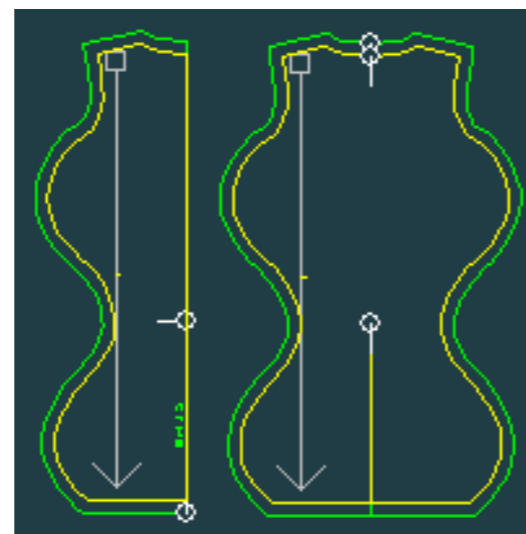


Figure 1. Clothing products

### Material and methods

The research was based on anthropometric data recorded at the medical institution IMSP Municipal Clinic Hospital "Gh. Paladi" in Chisinau, for the period 2014-2018. These data were analysed and grouped according to the degree of prematurity. Weight, length, head circumference and chest circumference were measured 12 hours after birth.

### Results

The models developed as a result of the research carried out are original and designed in accordance with the requirements imposed on clothing for premature babies.

### Conclusions

The theoretical and practical significance of the studies conducted lies in the research of user categories and their degree of development. The products thus developed will help reduce discomfort, improve motor and cognitive activity, and the quality of life of the premature child. Therefore, the design of functional products adapted for premature babies, based on initial scientifically based data, will have an ergonomic, economic and socio-human impact on this category of carriers.