

## Case Study 12: Mary

### Child's age, weight, height

7 year-old female, 42 pounds, 45.5 inches

### Medical Diagnosis/condition

Autism

### Reason for referral

Mary was consistently escaping from her car seat by unbuckling the buckle, chest clip, or the actual seat belt. Mary not only escaped from her car seat but would demonstrate negative behavior of pinching and grabbing her mom while driving. Mary's mom had to pull over numerous times during a car ride which was a deterrent to going out into the community.

### Current child safety restraint

Combination seat with harness

### Other child passengers and restraints

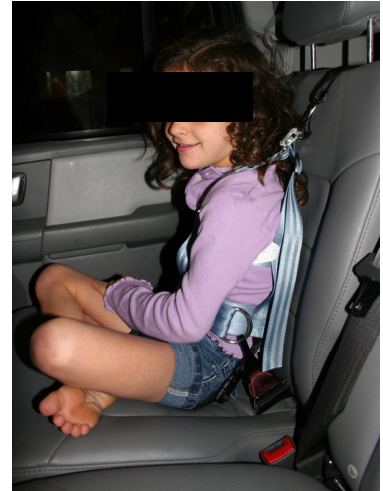
None

### Vehicle Year, Make and Model

2002, Ford Expedition

### Child's Seating Position in Vehicle; D=driver

<b>D</b>		
		<b>Mary</b>



### Vehicle Issues

A floor mount tether system was necessary for installation of the vest.

### Evaluation

Mary has a significant decrease in safety awareness. She has behavioral issues which make it difficult to keep Mary safely restrained in the vehicle. The harness system in Mary's current restraint was too small for her; her weight exceeded the 40 pound maximum and her shoulders were above the top harness slots.

### Outcome

An E-Z-On vest with a rear zipper and floor mount tethers was issued to Mary and her family. Mary could not reach the rear zipper closure or the installation method via the floor mount tether system. By using this restraint Mary would no longer be able to escape and distract her mother while driving. Her family went to a mobility company to have the floor mount tether installed. If Mary traveled in multiple vehicles, this type of system would require special hardware in each vehicle in which she is a passenger.