ANNEX 6

Task 2 - Report of Analysis of Mystery Client

1. Introduction

The number of trampoline parks, as well as their users, has been gradually increasing across Europe. However, with the lack of regulation and the increasing number of injuries, it is essential to understand more about the current procedures in Trampoline Parks in order to identify good practices and areas that need improvement in order to create and promote exciting and safe opportunities for users in Trampoline Parks.

The use of a methodology as "Mystery Client" can help to understand and overcome challenges of obtaining information in real context and details about the operational practices in the trampoline parks through the experience of real users (Fitzpatrick & Tumlinson, 2017)^[1].

2. Methodology

2.1. Selection and Characterization of the Sample

According to the requirements of the Technical Study "Trampolines and Trampoline Parks", previously established for the current data collection, the mystery client is composed of a family, at least one adult (maximum two) and two or three children aged 4 to 12 years old. For the purpose of this study, two families with the following characteristics were selected:

- Mystery Client 1 Family A (Professional use): Family with experience in gymnastics or trampolines, at least with one adult who can perform somersaults and flips or jumps with greater difficulty.
- Mystery Client 2 Family B (Common user): Family with basic skills and limit experience in using trampolines.

The family integration and preparation process took place in two phases. In the first phase, families were asked to collaborate via telephone and email and were informed about the objectives, procedures and instruments of the study. In the second phase, a meeting was held in order to formalize their participation, and in which, in order to ensure informed consent, a letter with detailed information about the study and the procedures involved was given to each participant, ensuring in writing, anonymity and confidentiality. Participants were informed that their participation was voluntary and that they could withdraw their consent at any time.

Table 1. Characterization of the mystery clients

Mystery clients	Nº of elements	Ages	Trampoline experience
Family A	4 elements: 2 adults; 2 children.	41 - 40 - 9 - 8	Professional use
Family B	4 elements: 1 adult, 3 children	40 - 12 (x2) - 7	Common user

The selection of trampoline parks that receive visits from mystery clients was made considering the proximity factor in terms of contact and travel. Two parks in the district of Lisbon in Portugal were selected.

2.2. Procedures and analysis of results

The methodology allows for insight into actual practices of the park and the real experience of users (Fitzpatrick & Tumlinson, 2017)^[1]. The collection of information consisted on the simulation of common behaviours in the frequency of trampoline parks and in the practice of this type of activity and other previously defined situations. Following the visit to the park, the information gathering was done by filling out a post-experience questionnaire by the participants (see annex A). This allows data summarizing, obtained through their simulations and direct observations. Particularly in this case, the post-experience questionnaire was filled by one adult of each family.

Each participant was given a script (see annex B), with tasks to be performed and aspects to be observed at each stage or moment. As a complement, in order to understand more about the park's procedures, four scenarios were outlined - two per mystery client (Family A with scenarios 3 and 4; Family B with 1 and 2). This scenarios







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intended to provide information on critical aspects of safety in trampoline parks, such

as: information on the staff performance in case of injury or emergency; the respective

procedures; information on monitor supervision in the bounce court; safety

information and warnings provided to users during briefing:

1- Simulation of injury during activity;

2- Simultaneous jump of 2 persons on the same trampoline;

3- Performance of a not allowed jump by an adult;

4- Ask at the end of the briefing if it is possible to do somersaults.

The visits of mystery clients took place between February and March 2020. In the

planification, participants should visit the two selected parks on alternate weekends.

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, participants

were only able to make one visit to one of the selected parks.

The results obtained were analysed descriptively and subsequently were interpreted

through a resume reporting of the main results and conclusions.

3. Results

> **Prior Information** 3.1.

With regard to information about the rules and practice of the activity in the

trampoline park received before purchasing the ticket or entering the activity zone,

both families state that prior information was provided at the first contact at the

reception (orally) and posted in the park (f=2). However, Family A also received more

information via email, while Family B referred to the website of the park.

As for the content of this information, only the mandatory use of non-slip socks and

the conditions and limitations in terms of use (age, height, experience) were common

to both families. Family A appointed also the rules of the park, namely, that it's

forbidden to access the bounce court with objects which may break, hurt or damage

the equipment and that it's forbidden to jump under the influence of alcohol or drugs

and eating in the trampolines area. On the other hand, Family B received more





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information about the safety rules for using the trampolines, such as "it's prohibited to jump two persons per trampoline" and "jump with both feet". Still, this family was advised to carefully read the terms and conditions and safety rules posted on the reception, the rules affixed on each equipment, and in case of doubts to ask for clarification to the monitors in the activity area.

3.2. **Safety Briefing**

All the families received an initial briefing before the activity (f=2). In relation to the method used, in both cases the briefing took place orally in a place on the bounce arena without ongoing activities and was done by the monitor. Moreover, the Family A mentioned that at the entrance there was an explanatory video demonstrating the allowed and not allowed behaviours and exercises.

Regarding the topics mentioned in the briefing both families received information about which jumps and manoeuvres were allowed (f=2). Aside from that, Family A received information on the risk in the jump area as well as jump and landing methods. Family B on which jumps and manoeuvres were prohibited and the minimum age or skills necessary for certain areas or activities. Once again, Family B received the information that there was always one monitor in the bounce area to help, guide and clarify all the doubts.

Specifically, the safety rules and use of the park and equipment covered were:

- Jump only one person per trampoline (f=2);
- Jump according to personal experience and skills (f=2);
- Always obey the instructions of the monitors (f=2);
- Jump and land with both feet (f=2);
- Do not run through the park (f=1);
- Do not perform somersaults (f=1);
- Somersaults only on the air mattress (Other, f=1).







Again, the information identified by both families was not exactly the same.

The participants families considered that the briefing provided was appropriate for the target audience and with a clear message. However, the verification that all users understood the instructions at the end of the briefing was not consensual. Family B said that "The briefing was clear but only for those in the front row, the rest could not hear. In the end there was only the question whether there were any doubts, and nobody even had it because part of them did not hear and wanted to go and jump.".

3.3. Warm-up

After the briefing, both participants received a warm-up before starting the activity at the same location as the briefing, next to the entrance to the activity zone.

3.4. **Trampoline Area**

The parks visited have different rules for specific areas and activities (f=2), specifically, for trampolines with higher rebound the minimum height of the user is indicated at the entrance (Family B: "children under 1.25m are not allowed") and there are specific equipment for more complex jumps or somersaults (Family A: "somersaults or more complex jumps are only allowed on blue bed trampolines and big bag").

The different activity areas have specific use and safety warnings (f=2), for example, in the basketball equipment that was a warning that said it is not allowed to grab the net and basketball backboard.

Regarding the conditions of the park and the maintenance of the equipment, all the families reported that the park was clean and there were no signs of damage. However, Family A reported that, even if most of the beds and equipment seemed ok, identified one bed with a slack in the elastics (in the area of elastic trampolines)

Concerning the capacity of the park, Family B considered it adjusted, while Family A stated that "many users for an hour of use; a lot of time is wasted waiting for the access to some areas; at least two birthday parties taking place, causing that some trampolines were closed and only allowed for parties participants".







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3.5. Staff/Monitors

Regarding the supervision by staff, one of the participants stated that there was at least one monitor in each trampoline area. However, in specific situations this number may increase, as in the case of birthday parties (f=2) or a very high number of users (f=1).

In both experiences, the monitors intervened to ensure compliance with equipment capacity (n=2). Family B also reported that the monitors explained the rules of use in each trampoline area, ensured the compliance with existing limitations in the use of certain equipment and that users perform the activity correctly and safely, and intervene in case of a fall and injury.

In the final observations, the participants mentioned some situations that they considered relevant.

Family A reported that one child suffered a fall and demonstrated some pain, but the monitor was distracted and only paid assistance when they drew her attention to what happened ("A child flipping backwards fell head first in front of us, having got up, apparently in pain. We were the ones who told the monitor that was talking to a colleague and only then she went to the child!").

Results of simulated scenarios 3.6.

In the case of the simulation of a fall with injury (scenario 1), the assistance to the participant was provided quickly ("And they were very quick to identify the simulated injury without the need of calling them."). Specifically, ice was provided and data was retrieved in case insurance activation was necessary on a visit to the hospital. In order to not strain and worsen the injury, the "injured" person was allowed to exit through the door in the court area, avoiding up the stairs to the main entrance.

Regarding the simulation of two users jumping per trampoline (scenario 2), the monitor (from another area) asked for the compliance of the rules and prevented the repetition of the situation by staying nearby. In addition, the monitor explained that no matter the size of the trampoline, the weight difference between the adult and child can put the child in danger. Family B considered that the intervention of the monitor responsible for the area where they were, wasn't the most adequate ("The







monitors were all focused on their task, friendly and communicative. However, when we simulated scenario 2, for a while the staff looked at us and did not do anything. He was talking with another user who seemed to know him. But another monitor from another area came to us and told us that we could not be on the same trampoline.").

When the adult of the Family A performed a somersault (scenario 3), the monitor intervened by prohibiting other jumps not allowed in that type of trampoline and advised performing somersaults on the trampolines specifically designed for this type of exercises.

On the other hand, when asked at the end of the briefing if it was possible to perform somersaults (scenario 4), the monitor's response was that these jumps were allowed as long as they were made on the trampolines previously indicated.

4. Discussion of the results

Although the results only reflect the experience in one park, the inclusion of the Mystery Client method was important for a better understanding of aspects related to the safety in the use and practice of bouncing in trampoline parks. Most answers given by the two mystery clients were consistent, showing that, in general, the practices in the park were adequate and regular. However, the way the procedures were conducted was not always similar. This was particularly evident in the contents provided in pre-information and in safety briefing as in staff action.

Regarding the information provided before the beginning of activity, both mystery clients received information on the day of the visit to the park (verbally and in affixed warnings). However, it should be noted that, despite the same method of purchasing tickets (online), only one mystery client reported having received information via email. As for the content of this information, only the mandatory use of non-slip socks and the conditions and limitations in terms of use were common to both mystery clients. Another important aspect was the advice to read carefully the terms and conditions and safety rules posted on the reception and the rules posted in each equipment. But again, this information was not provided to both clients. There were







other contents not presented to the two clients. This can denote some lack of harmonization in procedures.

The safety briefing and the warm-up before the activity were conducted by the monitor in the arena/bounce court without ongoing activities. The briefing was done verbally, but at the entrance there was an explanatory video demonstrating the allowed and not allowed behaviours and exercises. Regarding the topics mentioned in the briefing both participants received information about which jumps and manoeuvres were allowed and other more specific information like: only one person allowed to jump per trampoline; jump according to personal skills; always obey the instructions of the monitors; and jump and land with both feet. It is possible to verify that, according to the mystery client's answers, there was some information presented to one client, but not to the other. Again, this can denote the same lack of harmonization of procedures between staff.

One mystery client referred that the confirmation that all users understood the instructions at the end of the briefing was ineffective, because only the people that were in the front row could hear. For these reasons, and although according to mystery clients the language was clear and the content adjusted, the safety briefing looks not efficient to all the users.

Both mystery clients stated that the park has different rules for the specific areas and activities as well as different use and safety warnings. This information revealed that this park allows more complex jumps but only in a specific trampoline/area. Despite that not everyone is allowed in some trampolines/areas, the skills look to be a standard rule, bar for height, but they are not previously evaluated by staff.

The park was considered by the mystery clients as clean and well maintained. Anyhow, one reported that, even if most of the beds and equipment seemed ok, in one bed a slack in the elastics was identified (in the area of elastic trampolines).

Concerning the capacity of the park, one mystery client considered it unadjusted; there were too many users and birthday parties on that day which resulted in some activities being closed for the party and other equipment having a long waiting time.







Regarding staff supervision, one mystery client stated that there was at least one monitor in each trampoline area. Although, it looks that this number can increase in some specific situations, such as in the case of birthday parties.

Most of the interventions of the monitors were associated with the scenarios performed by each mystery client but, in both experiences, it was reported that the monitors intervened to ensure compliance with equipment capacity. In scenario 1 (simulation of injury), the assistance and the first aid were provided very quickly to the mystery client, revealing that they have procedures for this type of situation. About the simulation of two users jumping per trampoline (scenario 2), the monitor from the area did not intervene, but other monitors drew attention to the risk and asked for the compliance with the use rules and prevented the repetition of the situation by staying nearby.

About scenario 3 and 4 (related with somersaults) it is important to consider that the park permits and has specific trampolines/areas for this type of jump and user rules for somersaults or more specific jumps. The mystery client performed a somersault (scenario 3) in an area where these jumps were not allowed and was prohibited by the monitor with the argument that there were not trampolines designed for this type of exercises and with the indication what were the allowed areas. In scenario 4 (question at the end of the briefing about the possibility of performing somersaults), the answer was positive ("jumps are allowed as long as they are made on the trampolines previously indicated").

5. **Conclusions**

The results of the analysis revealed some situations that can influence in a negative way the safety and good practices of the activity of bouncing in trampoline parks.

One of the crucial aspects is about the supervision by monitors. At certain times the supervision of the monitor assigned to a certain area was not the most appropriate, having been twice reported lack of attention due to a parallel dialogue between the monitor and another user or another staff. This lack of continuous and focused supervision originated a delay in reaction and action of staff, namely, in dangerous







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behaviours, such as two persons jumping on a trampoline, or, in the case of an

accident where a child apparently hit with the head.

A second important aspect is the content and conditions under which the safety

briefing was provided. There was no consistency between the information disclosed

in the briefing, the conditions did not guarantee that all users listened and understood

the information provided and the procedures related with previous information

(before purchase and entrance) didn't seem coherent.

Although somersaults were only permitted in specific areas and users were informed

that they need to jump according to personal skills, there is not an evaluation of the

abilities of users and the decision and responsibility is on the person in charge.

References

[1] Fitzpatrick, A., & Tumlinson, K. (2017). Strategies for optimal implementation of

simulated clients for measuring quality of care in low-and middle-income

countries. Global Health: Science and Practice, 5(1), 108-114.



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ANNEX A

Post-experiment questionnaire

Mystery Client: Visited Park:	Family A Family B
Scenario/s	1 2A 2B 3 4
Date/Hour:	Time spent in the activity :
	Part 1
A – Information's	
Has any prior infor	mation been provided on the first contact (prior to ticket purchase
or entry into the ac	tivity zone)?
Yes	
No	
How:	
■ By e-mail.	
At reception	n (orally).
Flyer (writte	en).
Posted.	
Website.	
Other. Which	ch one?
Point out the co	ontent of the information transmitted and/or requested:
	use of non-slip socks
•	information on the existence of medical conditions and contacts
in case of e	
Conditions	and limitations in terms of use (age, height, experience).
	to carry out a warm-up before the activity
■ No access to or equipme	o the arena with objects that may break, injure or damage the usen
• •	under the influence of drugs or alcohol
	r drinking in the trampoline area
_	ortable or sporty clothing during the practice of the activity
Other. Which	

B - Briefing

Was there a framing briefing at the beginning of the activity?

Yes







- Rules with other users
- Risks and consequences of potential injuries as a result of jumps with a higher level of difficulty or risk
- Minimum of ages or experience to access certain areas or activities
- Other. Which one?

Check the safety and use rules referred to:

- Jump only one person by trampoline
- Jump according to experience and personal abilities
- Always follow the instructions of the monitors
- Don't run through the park
- No performing deadly jumps
- No performing deadly jumps without the supervision of a professional
- No realize mortals with pirouettes and double mortals
- No performing deadly jumps with pirouettes and double mortals without the supervision of a professional







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No making dangerous fights or pranks
Jumping in the center of the trampoline
Jumping and landing with both feet
■ To stop jumping bend your knees
Exit the area quickly foam pit or air mattress(airbag))
In the foam moat land on the back, side or foot; never head long
If you lose your balance try to fall on your back, keep your arms close to you
body and rest your chin on your chest to avoid injuries to your arms, shoulder
and legs
 No jumping from trampoline to floor, carpets or side springboard protections
 No sitting or lying on the trampoline or jumping walls
Do not climb or grab the safety nets
Other. Which one?
Other. Which one:
Did you feel that the message of the briefing was clear?
Yes
■ No
INO
Has the briefing been tailored to the target audience?
Yes
■ No
At the end of the briefing was checked if all users understood the instructions.
■ Yes
■ No
How (e.g. general question; specific questions; game/quiz)?
Tiow (e.g. general question, specific questions, game, quiz):
C – Warm up
Before starting the activity, is any type of heating carried out?
Yes
■ No
Where is this heating carried out?
D - Arena - Trampoline Zone







Are there different usage rules for specific areas/activities?

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Yes
No
If You specific
If Yes, specify:
Are there safety and usage warnings posted in the different arena activity zones? Yes No
If Yes, specify:
Did the equipment show wear or damage? Yes No
If Yes, specify the area and the type of wear/damage:
Was the park clean? ■ Yes ■ No
If No, did any area of the park show more dirt?
Do you consider that the user capacity was adjusted? Yes





If you answered No, justify:

No



E - Monitors

Was there at	least one	monitor in e	ach trami	poline area?
vvas tricic at	icast onc			

- Yes
- No

What is the average number of monitors per trampoline area?

Was there a situation where the number of existing monitors increased (relative to the average)?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, indicate which:

- Younger children
- Birthday Parties
- Groups of schools
- People with special needs
- Equipment with higher level of difficulty
- Very high number of users
- Other. Which one?

Mark the behaviours/interventions of the monitors during the activities (the ones you witnessed):

- They explained the rules of use in each trampoline area
- They exemplified how the activity/jump
- Ensured compliance with equipment capacity (1 user per trampoline)
- Ensured compliance with existing limitations on the use of certain equipment (e.g. age, height, experience, ...)
- Ensured that users perform the activity correctly and safely (they jump safely and in a correct way, prevent more than one person from jumping at the same time)
- Intervened in case of injury/fall
- Demonstrated deadly jumps or other higher difficulty levels, which are allowed for users
- Demonstrated deadly jumps or other higher difficulty levels, which no users are allowed
- Other. Which one?

F - Observations







Did the monitor ignore the occurrence of these jumps?

- Yes
- No

Did the monitor forbid more jumps allowed?

Yes







The monitor encouraged the execution of more jumps No allowed Yes No
If it was forbidden, which were the reasons pointed out to continue, after the indications that were given (much experience)?
Scenario 4 (Question at the end of the briefing whether it is possible to perform mortals) After the question, the monitor stated that it was possible to perform deadly jumps? Yes No
In the case of the negative answer, what was the justification given by the monitor?
After you insist and argued (experience in trampolines and practice in gymnastics), has the monitor changed his answer? If Yes, which were the conditions settled?







ANNEX B

Mystery Client: Script and Procedures

- Mystery Client

According to the requirements of this study, previously established, the mystery client is a family composed of at least one adult (maximum two) and two or three children aged between 4 and 12 years.

The mystery client will have to simulate the usual behaviour from people who use this kind of spaces and practice this type of activity and other previously defined situations. His participation depends on the signature of an informed consent, stating that they agree to participate in that study, in accordance with the conditions presented.

Number of elements in the mystery family:
Ages of the elements:
Previous experience in trampolines?
 Experience as a sportsman/gymnast. Previous use of trampoline parks in leisure level. No previous experience, it is the first time.

- Visit dynamics and Simulation scenarios

During your simulation activity you should collect as much information as possible, observing different aspects at each stage or moment:

- Security rules and policies transmitted at the reception/purchase of the ticket, in the briefing and during the activity.
- Alerts and rules posted in the park especially safety rules in each area of the arena.
- Equipment and conditions in the arena area.
- Number of monitors present in the park.
- Briefing: where it is done, how many times and by whom.

Before going to the park should:

- Search for information on the website (useful information, safety, use).
- Buy tickets online.







At the reception (before starting the activity) you must:

- Observe the information posted and delivered
- Be aware of the information available orally about the practice and/or presence in the park

In the arena (trampoline area) you must:

- Listen to the briefing.
- Go through all areas of the arena with trampolines, starting your activity by the less difficult ones.
- Carry out the established (agreed) scenarios.
- Check the information posted in different areas.

Simulation scenarios

1) Simulation of injury during activity

You will have to simulate a fall during "the jump", faking an "injury" in the knee. After falling you should complain of knee pain, asking for help getting up and limping to the indicated location. You should fake some pain when bending and that you experience difficulties when stretching your leg. In case you suggest going to the hospital, you should mention that it is not justified and prefers to wait and rest a little, that if at home you do not feel better and the pain worsens there will go to the hospital.

2) Simulation jump of 2 people on the same trampoline

In this scenario it is intended that two people jump simultaneous on the same trampoline. The goal is to make the two options described below, starting with 2A on a trampoline and then 2B on another trampoline. If this is not possible, one should choose the one that best fits your family and identify in the post-experience questionnaire.

a) Simulation jumping of an adult and a child

You should observe whether the monitor allows or advises that it should not be done to reduce the risk of accident. If the monitor interferes, the argument should be: in case the child is between 4 and 6 years old, who is still small and is afraid to jump alone and therefore needs support, or another argument that fits the child concerned. You should observe the reaction and memorize the justifications of the monitor(s).

b) Simulation jump of two children

You should observe whether the monitor allows or advises that it should not be done to reduce the risk of accident. In case the monitor interferes, you should argue that: children are small and there is enough space on the trampoline; besides it is much more fun. Observe reaction and memorize the justifications of the monitor(s).







3) Performing jumps not allowed by an adult

You must perform a jump with mortal or another forbidden jump, on a trampoline where no Simulation of scenario 2 had taken place.

During the Simulation you should always check the reaction of the monitor(s), if they interfere, argue (in a friendly way) that they have practice in this type of activity and in gymnastics and that there is no risk ("that you can rest assured"). Observe reaction and memorize the justifications of the monitor(s).

4) Question at the end of the briefing whether it is possible to carry out mortals

At the end of the briefing, you should question whether it is possible to make more technical jumps, such as deadly jumps with pirouettes or deadly doubles. The reaction should be observed and the justifications of the monitor(s) should be stored. If the first answer is no, insist that you have a lot of practice of years of gymnastics training.







ANNEX C

Informed Consent: Mystery Client

The present task of analysis - the "Mystery Client" - falls within the scope of the study "ANEC Technical Study: Trampolines and trampoline parks", whose main objective is to collect information that allows to create proposals for the improvement and/or development of safety standards for different types of trampolines (domestic, gymnastics, playgrounds) and trampoline parks.

Your participation as a mystery client consists of a visit to a selected trampoline park, where you and your family (one or two adults and 2 to 3 children between 4 and 12 years old) will have to practice the activities according to some previously established conditions and scenarios. Information about your participation will be collected through a questionnaire and, if necessary, a short interview will be done to allow a better understanding of your experience.

As volunteers, you and your family should not have any expenses nor take risks and are free to withdraw or refuse to participate, at any time, without any kind of damage and consequences. The organization will pay for the entrances to the park, as well as 50€ to cover any travel costs, food or other expenses that may be necessary as a result of your participation. The participants in this study will not be identified in any report or publication.

I declare that,

- (1) I have read and understood all the information available in this informed consent.
- (2) I was informed about all the doubts I may have submitted.
- (3) I accept, in an informed and voluntary way, to participate in this study.

(Signature of the participant)	Date







ANNEX D

Informed Consent: Mystery Client

Voluntary Interruption / Withdrawal

This analysis task - the "Mystery Client" - falls within the scope of the study "ANEC Technical Study: Trampolines and trampoline parks", whose main objective was to collect information that allows the creation of proposals for the improvement and / or development of safety standards for different types of trampolines (domestic, gymnastics, playgrounds) and trampoline parks.

Your participation as a mystery shopper was voluntary, having been informed that he could withdraw at any time, or refuse to participate, without any kind of damage or consequence. As a participant in this study, you will not be identified in any report or publication, and the data obtained during the tasks will only be analysed and worked on by members of the research team.

I declare that,

- (1) I have read and understood all the information available in this informed consent.
- (2) I was informed about all the doubts I may have submitted.
- (3) I accept, in an informed and voluntary way, to interrupt my participation in this study.

(Signature of the participant)	Date





