



Tread carefully when children about

TREADMILLS will have to be sold with warning labels under new measures to stem the growing tide of children injured by the machines.

Hospitals have reported an increasing number of young children suffering from serious friction burns after treadmill accidents at home.

Consumer Affairs Minister Chris Bowen yesterday announced that from December 1, all treadmills

would have to carry a prominent label warning they posed a serious hazard to young children, who should be kept away from the machines.

"Over the last three years, more than 100 serious accidents linked to treadmills have occurred in Australian homes," he said.

Former boxing champion Mike Tyson's four-year-old daughter Ex-

odus died recently when she accidentally hanged herself from a looped cord dangling from a treadmill console in the family home.

Federal Member for Ryan Michael Johnson applauded the initiative yesterday, which came nine months after his then two-year-old son Ryan nearly lost his finger when it was caught in a treadmill.

Emma Chalmers



CLOSE call ... federal MP Michael Johnson's son Ryan was injured by a treadmill. Picture: Derek Moore