

U.S. NATIONAL WATER SAFETY ACTION PLAN: Phase 2 Overview (Working summary subject to change as plans develop. See working group documentation for details.)

Working Groups:

Subgroups & Scope:

Data/Public Health Surveillance

Surveillance of Interventions

Will address data sources, gaps & recommendations regarding:

- Lifeguarding/Supervision
- CPR
- Swim skills/water competency
- Life jackets
- Barriers

Will address monitoring and evaluating efforts to promote drowning prevention interventions

Incident Surveillance

Will address data sources, gaps, & recommendations regarding:

- Nonfatal drowning incidents
- Fatal drowning incidents

Will highlight gaps and suggest improvements regarding data on circumstances and outcomes of all drowning incidents (including those not routinely captured (e.g. natural disasters))

Will highlight gaps and suggest improvements regarding data analysis, interpretation, presentation, and dissemination

Water Safety/Water Competence/ Swimming Lessons

Water Competency

- Definitions: "WC" & "swim"
- Evaluation level/Age group
- Test elements
- Interactions with task requirements & environments

Swim Lessons

- Lesson goals
- Age group differences
- Teaching/learning techniques & pedagogical considerations
- Achievement levels/skill sets
- Instructor qualifications
- Water safety expectations
- Individual differences
- Cultural/linguistic expectations

Water Safety Education

- Educational systems
- Community groups/ organizations
- Health systems
- Aquatics agencies
- Water facilities/spaces

Racial Equity and Empowerment

- Trauma
- Cost
- Value added
- False myths/stereotypes
- Historical knowledge
- Representation
- Access

Disability

- Dismantle ableism
- Barriers to inclusion
- Accessibility

Supervision/Lifeguards

Changing Risky Behaviors

Explore strategies re behavior:

- Acquisition of risk information
- Appreciation of known risk
- Reasons risks are ignored

To include identification of individuals/agencies/entities with common interests (e.g. behavioral change and risk management specialists)

Lay Supervision

Review, define, and develop data & programs regarding:

- Lay supervision for children
- Lay supervision for youth groups (day cares, camps, etc)
- Peer supervision for teens & young adults, including at risk groups and locations

Lifeguards

Review, define, and develop data & programs regarding:

- Lifeguard training with focus on incident prevention, victim recognition, & professionalism
- Lifeguard management training & best practices
- Potential enhancements to MAHC

Messaging/Dissemination

Work with other groups to unify messages to:

- Schools
- Parents
- Residential pool/beach owners
- Other channels

Rescue/CPR

Rescue

Will address education, methodologies, and standards for water rescues by lay persons, lifeguards, and other first responders, including:

- Risk assessment at all levels
- Education for parents and laypersons, including individual limitations and ability -based options
- Aquatics environments (pools, surf, bathtubs, swift water, weather effects, etc.)
- Status of rescue protocols, training programs, & legislative efforts

CPR

Encourage evidence-based CPR training, for both lay and professional rescuers, including:

- Difference in protocols between hypoxic & other causes of cardiac arrest
- Delivery of age-appropriate training
- In-water resuscitation
- Pediatrician messaging
- Standardization of first responder training for drowning response
- Prehospital management of non-fatal drowning

Barriers, Entrapment and Electrical Safety

Safety Devices

Will survey safety devices currently in use or development to include:

- Type of residential water
- Product standards
- Ease of use
- Cost
- Reasons for failure

Barriers(+) Education

Will address education of stakeholders to include:

- Families & caregivers
- Medical Professionals
- Product retailers/ installers
- Insurance companies
- Property owners
- Home inspectors
- Policy makers

Enforcement

Will identify enforcement & legislative issues including:

- Tying local regulations to ASTM & other standards
- Product standards
- Layers of protection
- Permitting, licensing, testing & certification
- Product quality control
- Insurance incentives or requirements

Advocacy

Will address what levels of mandatory and incentive based policies are effective & achievable.

Life Jackets/ Personal Flotation Devices and Other Flotation

Will address four environments:

- Boating and Floating
- Controlled Water like Pools
- Controlled Water like Designated Swim Areas
- Uncontrolled Open Water

Communications / Media

- Address misperceptions
- Boaters, floaters, swimmers, waders
- Key influencers, role modeling

Education / Training

- Enhance knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and skills
- Individuals, organizations, instructors
- Address boaters and non-boaters
- Part of water competency / learn to swim
- School based requirements

Access

- Loaner programs
- Increase low cost/free options
- Culturally tailored

Mandatory Wear/ Enforcement

- Boaters, floaters, swimmers, waders
- Evaluate existing and promising practices
- Consider age, boat type, size of boat, time of year, water type, water used by swimmers
- Use data to guide strategies

Technology/ Design/ Engineering

- Increase use through design and engineering
- Boater, floater, swimmer, wader, rescue options

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Working Groups:	Data/Public Health Surveillance	Water Safety/Water Competence/ Swimming Lessons	Supervision/Lifeguards	Rescues/CPR	Barriers, Entrapment and Electrical Safety	Life Jackets/ Personal Flotation Devices and Other Flotation
Topics Not Included In Scope:	Will not thoroughly examine suicides and homicides from drowning, or motor vehicle crashes resulting in drowning.	None currently identified.	Will not focus on lifeguard training and performance beyond victim recognition. (Rescues/CPR covered by other working group.)	Will not endorse specific rescue training programs. Will not create national guidelines or algorithms for CPR.	Final recommendations may have limited application to natural bodies of water, but those will be included in environmental scan.	Will not address life jackets for pets or certain aspects of commercial boating industry.

General Overlap:

Messaging, Education, and Behavior Change: Many of the working subgroups have identified the need to effectively convey information to individuals of various ages, supervisors, policy makers, and regulators, at local to national levels. While specific content is the responsibility of the separate working groups, there will be overlap in what communication procedures are most appropriate for common audiences and when input from various groups should be combined into targeted messages.

At-Risk Groups, Diversity, and Disability: Drowning rates vary for different populations and the various working groups will explore specific strategies to reduce those rates. Overlap exists since final recommendations may combine working group input to address given populations. Likewise, general considerations identified by diversity and disability subgroups should guide discussions by other subgroups.

