Aquatic Health and Safety

CDC Report:
84,187 Inspections of 48,632 Venues
The report summarized aquatic facility inspection findings by 16 public health agencies across five states during 2013

Inspections:
Identified Health Code Violations
79%

Resulted in Pool Closure
12%

Aquatic Health Risks

Outbreaks
- 650 outbreaks in aquatic facilities reported to CDC from 1978-2012
- Cryptosporidiosis is the most common disease associated with aquatic facility related outbreaks
  - Associated with the 69 reported outbreaks from 2011-2012 related to treated recreational water, there were 1,309 Cases of Illness
    - 73 Hospitalizations
    - 1 Death

Drowning
- 4,000 deaths per year from 1996-2010
- Leading cause of injury death in children 1-4 years old (12% of these are in pools)
- An average of 5,789 emergency department visits annually from 2005-2008 resulted from nonfatal drowning

Chemical Incidents
- 3,000-5,000 emergency department visits per year from 2005-2012
- Estimated 4,876 pool chemical ED visits in 2012 alone
- Nearly half of cases involved children
- Most visits resulted from inhalation of vapors/gases

Injuries
- 30,000 swim-related emergency department visits by children under 10 from 2001-2008
- 5 fatalities
- 29 injuries from scalding entrapments in public pools and spas from 1999-2010

Healthy Swimming Practices

Healthy swimming behavior and better hygiene can help to reduce the risk of waterborne illness, injury and drowning

Shower before swimming
- A 1 minute shower can wash most of the contaminants from your body

Don’t dive in shallow water
- Pay attention to depth markings
- If depth is unclear, don’t dive

Supervise children
- Drowning can happen quickly

Don’t swim when ill with diarrhea
- This can contaminate the water and get others sick

The pool is not a bathroom!

Data Sources
CDC MMWR. (2016) Immediate Closures and Violations Identified During Routine Inspections of Public Aquatic Facilities: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6424a4.htm
CDC MMWR. (2015) Outbreaks of Illness Associated with Recreational Water: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6418a3.htm
CDC MMWR. (2012) Drowning: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6119a4.htm
CDC MMWR. (2014) Pool Chemical-Associated Health Events in Public and Recreational Settings: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6318a3.htm