

# Proposed Codes to Assist in Drowning Prevention



- Drowning is the process of experiencing respiratory impairment from submersion/immersion in liquid.
- Drowning outcomes should be classified as: death, morbidity, and no morbidity.

Source: World Health Organization

- 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of unintentional death worldwide
- 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of unintentional death in the U.S. for kids aged 1 – 14.
- An even more prevalent cause of injury

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- For every U.S. child who dies, 5 receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. Some are **lifelong debilitating injuries**.
- In 2015, there were approximately 6,300 emergency department visits and **2,500 hospitalizations** for non-fatal drowning/submersions (all ages).

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Drowning primarily affects **healthy people**
- Drowning is **preventable**



- **Targeting resources** to drowning **requires targeted data** on where drowning happens
- Current ICD-10 codes identify human-made drowning locales well, but **not natural drowning locales**

- More than half of fatal and nonfatal drownings in the U.S. among those 15 years and older occur in **natural water settings**



- Oceanfront
- Tidal bays and waterways
- Great Lakes
- Ponds, lakes, reservoirs\*
- Rivers
- Flooded areas



\*Reservoirs are currently coded (W73), but not the other locales



# Request

- Add ICD-10 codes to identify natural areas where drowning injuries occur.



# Example 1:

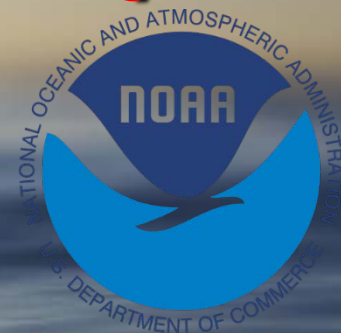
## National Water Safety Plan



- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American Red Cross
- Boy Scouts of America
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- National Park Service
- National Safe Boating Council
- National Swimming Pool Foundation
- Safe Kids Worldwide
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Lifesaving Association
- USA Swimming Foundation
- YMCA of the USA

# Example 2: Rip Current Safety

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and United States Lifesaving Association drowning prevention project
- Lacking data for identifying problem areas, targeting prevention, and benchmarking success



# Expected Outcome

- Better **understanding** of the **problem**
- **Targeting** of **resources**
- **Increasing** prevention **resources**
- **Benchmarking** of successful strategies
- Reduction in drowning injury and death