



## **Physical Activities in the Water Environment: Drowning, Prevention and Rescue**

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### **Message from the Guest Editors**

Around 320,000 deaths due to unintentional drowning are reported annually worldwide and is a 3rd leading cause of unintentional injury death worldwide among people of all ages. The causes and circumstances of these accidents have different etiologies, many of them are the result of physical activity in the aquatic environment.

The popularity of water sports is growing steadily around the world. Millions of people do one or more recreational or competitive water sports, such as swimming, sailing, surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, canoeing, diving, etc. Certainly, such activities are associated with health benefits, especially during outdoor activities, but it must be emphasized that they are associated with a potential risk of drowning, due to both objective and subjective risk factors.

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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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