NEWS

IDRA is registered as a non-profit!
IDRA is officially registered as a non-profit in the state of Idaho, with national tax-exempt status. Our EIN is 83-2980769. This number is public record and donors so can include it on their personal tax filings.
IDRA is a completely voluntary organization that replies on donations to help reduce drowning. All donations will be reinvested in improving drowning research. You can donate via PayPal (http://idra.world/donate/).

IDRA Whatsapp group
We have created a chat group using WhatsApp application. It’s only open for members and its main purpose is to “Reduce drowning by sharing scientific information, research questions and study ideas, and specially, by receiving scientific support from the group”. Join us if you haven’t already by sending an email to us.

Young Researcher Award
Anyone can be nominated for the award if they meet the eligibility criteria but the nomination must be made by an IDRA member. The award will take the form of a medal and the selection committee will be composed of 3 founding or invited honorary members with no COI and, if deemed necessary, 2 external jury.

Update on the Non-fatal Drowning Categorization Framework (NDCF)
The adoption of a definition of drowning has provided clarity for academic researchers, database administrators, and medical and public health professionals. However, the absence of a uniform understanding and consistent use of the term “non-fatal drowning” results in a lack of precision in data collection, thus hindering research efforts and limiting a full understanding of this global public health problem.

A Working Group was established in 2017 to address this issue and has met on several occasions. In early 2019 the Working Group finalized a draft Position Statement which provides a clarification statement about non-fatal drowning and which presents the Non-fatal Drowning Categorization Framework (NDCF).

It is expected that the NDCF will provide coherence and uniformity for the term “non-fatal drowning”. This Position Statement has undergone a period of public comment after having been posted on the WHO website.

At present, the inputs received from the public comment phase are being integrated into the Position Statement. Once this is completed, WHO and partners will be looking to pilot test the NDCF. For pilot testing it will be necessary to use the framework with existing data (e.g. hospital admission records, ambulance service records, police records, lifeguard service records etc).

If you have access to a data source having case-based data (i.e. information is available at the level of the individual) on at least 100 non-fatal drownings over a 5 year (or shorter) period and are interested in collaborating on the pilot test, please send an email indicating your interest to Dr David Meddings at meddingsd@who.int.

What’s NEXT?

Meetings in Durban, WCDP 2019
Like in the past, we will take the opportunity to get together with a larger group of members during the WCDP. At the next event we expect that two meetings will occur. One formal meeting to discuss IDRA’s matters and a set of items in an agenda to be circulated in advance. The other, will be an informal get together at the bar. Both will be scheduled closer to WCDP. All details will follow via email and whatsapp.

Emerging Drowning Researchers workshop at the WCDP 2019
We’re proud to announce that IDRA will be once again organizing a free workshop for Emerging Drowning Researchers during the WCDP. In Durban, 8th October @3pm. Joost Bierens is the contact person for the workshop. If any of you have suggestions or want to support as faculty, please get in touch with Joost at jbierens@euronet.nl.

Drowning Glossary of terms
We have several next steps in our strategic plan but one of the most important ones is to take on and progress with the task force “Glossary”.
To understand the true burden of drowning we need to be able to measure the process in its full complexity. This means that the process needs to be characterized in detail, including triggers, actions and interventions, so that terms, nomenclature and definitions can be used consistently in a standardized way to improve precision in data collection, and allowing for comparison of data across datasets.
The “glossary of drowning terms” project aims to provide such a comprehensive view of terms, nomenclature and definitions. We see this project as an advantage to all stakeholders interested in the process, not only policy makers and managers but also laypeople, lifeguarding and health services and researchers.

If you haven’t done it already, let us know if you want to collaborate in this joint effort.
“...promoting safer aquatic environments through evidence-based research...”

**Miscellaneous**

**Where are IDRA’ members?**

Gray=0 member; white= 1 member >>> dark blue= 15 members
Currently we have 60 members from 16 different countries.

**Use IDRA’s affiliation**
We would like to remind you that you can include your IDRA membership affiliation in all your professional correspondence and profiles.
Please use the following:
International Drowning Researchers’ Alliance, Kuna, USA

**2018 Highlights [sent by members]**

**Cody L Dunne**
In 2018, I published the paper that was presented at WCDP 2017 titled “Management of Cold Water-induced Hypothermia: A Simulation Scenario for Layperson Training Delivered via a Mobile Tele-simulation Unit.” I also worked with the Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador on a new project to investigate how distance education technology can overcome barriers associated with delivering water safety and lifesaving education to those living in rural/remote communities.

**Shayne Baker**
Facilitated another action learning program for young people (60 people) from regional areas of Australia in drowning prevention strategies and learning through the Downs Little Lifeguards (4th year). Summer of 2018/2019.
Participated and presented a paper at the Irish Lifesaving Foundation Drowning Prevention and Rescue Research Conference in September 2018 in Kildare, Ireland which has now been submitted as a paper for future publication in the International Journal
Facilitated capacity building initiatives to support drowning prevention initiatives in Durban, South Africa (2017) and in Malaysia (2018) on behalf of the RLSS Commonwealth members.

**Stathis Avramidis**
Since 2015, I publish the monthly e-magazine "Sport Lifesaver". It publishes articles of applied lifeguarding and lifesaving sport in Greek or English and it is delivered freely to dozens of countries and organizations. Every organization or individual is encouraged to submit articles and high resolution photos for publication. To become subscriber for free, insert your email at the top left of the blog [more].
In 2018, Dr. Stathis Avramidis taught 4.000 children and adults water safety as part of the program "Safe Greece" that is supported by the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation.
In 2018, Dr. Avramidis taught for 2nd year the modules "applied lifeguarding" and "lifesaving sport" in the University of Athens. Students were asked to teach voluntarily in various clubs to gain experiences, spreading the word of water safety across the nation.

**Future Actions from you**

We would love to have an infographic displayed at the next WCDP 2019 with the distribution of IDRA members on the drowning timeline. For that we just need you to send us an email with 5 keyword that characterize where your drowning-related work fits in the drowning timeline.
Additionally, we will soon send you a list of expertise and experience within members and ask you to advice if there’s anything missing and to nominate people with needed expertise.

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Some of our members’ 2018 publications in peer-reviewed journals.
Send us your latest publication(s) and we’ll add it to our next newsletter due on December 2019.


