



# Pool Safety

Every day, about ten people die from unintentional drowning. Of these, two are children aged 14 or younger. Drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

## What factors influence drowning risk?

- Lack of Swimming Ability
- Lack of Barriers
- Lack of Close Supervision
- Alcohol
- Failure to Use/Wear Life Jackets
- Seizure Disorders

## How you can Reduce the Risk

A swimming pool can be a great source of family fun, but it's important to make safety a priority in and around the water. Some of the most effective ways to prevent drowning include four-sided fencing, swimming lessons, life jackets, and supervision/lifeguarding. Knowing CPR can also save the life of someone who drowns. For best protection, combine several safety measures to most effectively reduce drowning risks.<sup>1</sup>

Drowning is a leading cause of injury death for young children ages 1 to 4, and the fifth leading cause of unintentional injury death for people of all ages. For children ages 1 to 4 years, swimming pools pose the greatest risk of submersion injury.

For every child less than 15 years old who dies from drowning in a pool, another 10 receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. Nonfatal drowning can cause brain damage that may result in long-term disabilities including memory problems, learning disabilities, and permanent loss of basic functions. The good news is that drowning can be prevented.<sup>1</sup>

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

