Conclusion This research identifies key risk factors pertaining to female drowning and contributes to SDGs 3 good health and wellbeing and 5 gender equality. It has the potential to inform future drowning prevention interventions for females and the development of future research into the drivers of female drowning, both within New Zealand and globally.

Bystanders who drown attempting a rescue are becoming an increasingly important issue within drowning prevention. In Australia, most of these incidents occur in coastal waterways. This study characterises coastal bystander rescuer fatalities collated in the national coastal fatality database (2004–2019) to guide future public safety interventions involving bystander rescuers. Sixty-seven bystander rescuer fatalities in coastal waterways were reported during the 15-year period, an average of 4.5 per year, which is a significant proportion of the five fatalities previously reported across all Australian waterways.

Most coastal bystander rescuer fatality incidents occurred in New South Wales (49%), at beaches (64%), in regional or remote areas (71%), more than 1 km from the nearest lifesaving service (78%), during summer (45%), in the afternoon (72%), in the presence of rip currents (73%), and did not involve the use of flotation devices to assist rescue (97%). The majority of coastal bystander rescuer victims were Australian residents (88%) born in Australia/Oceania (68%), males (81%), aged between 30–44 years old (36%), were visitors to the location (55%), either family (69%) or friends (15%) of the rescuee(s), and were attempting to rescue someone younger than 18 years old (64%).

Our results suggest safety intervention approaches should target males, parents and carers visiting beach locations in regional locations and should focus on the importance of flotation devices when enacting a rescue and further educating visitors about the rip current hazard. Future research should examine the psychology of bystander rescue situations and evaluate the effectiveness of different safety intervention approaches.

**Abstracts**

**28.005 Dying to Help: Fatal Bystander Rescues in Australian Coastal Environments**

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10.1136/injuryprev-2021-safety.42

Bystanders who drown attempting a rescue are becoming an increasingly important issue within drowning prevention. In Australia, most of these incidents occur in coastal waterways. This study characterises coastal bystander rescuer fatalities collated in the national coastal fatality database (2004–2019) to guide future public safety interventions involving bystander rescuers. Sixty-seven bystander rescuer fatalities in coastal waterways were reported during the 15-year period, an average of 4.5 per year, which is a significant proportion of the five fatalities previously reported across all Australian waterways.

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**2C.001 Trends in Falls-Related Injury Hospitalisations and Deaths Among Adults in Victoria, Australia**

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10.1136/injuryprev-2021-safety.42

Fall accidents are responsible for about a quarter of all injuries and hospital treatments in Austria. Children in the age group of 0-4-year-olds undergo hospital medical examinations even more frequently due to accidents resulting from falls.

Methods An analysis was conducted of fall accidents suffered by 0-4-year-olds in residences, who were treated at the Department for Paediatric and Youth Surgery, by using the injury data base.

Results 4,709 accidents were identified as ‘falls at home’. In this group of 0-4-year-olds a peak could be observed during the first year of life, during which 28% of the falls occurred.

In the case of injuries, 18% were categorized as ‘falls on furniture’. This group of injuries is particularly serious and often associated with medical complications.

Conclusion In Austria, safety standards and laws are central components of human protection, which is why technical prevention will no longer become the central starting point for accident prevention work. In many cases, the behaviour of a child who is subject to psychomotor developmental conditions and/or the behaviour of an adult/parent is the effective starting point for safety work.