

Analysis of rescue and resuscitation cases in surf life saving 1990-98.

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Surf Life Saving Australia keeps an ongoing database of resuscitation cases: analysis of previous years has already been published. The database was extended to include rescues, and resuscitation cases. We compare an analysis of differences between the rescues and resuscitation statistics in the period 1990-1998. In many areas the relative percentage of people rescued was similar to those needing resuscitation. Those that didn't include age groups: 22% of total rescues were in the 0-15 age group, but only 2% total resuscitation cases: 25% rescues were aged 40-60, 42% needed resuscitation. Rescues (..) and resuscitation cases (..) occurred outside average patrol times of 0800-1800: 70% of rescues and resuscitations were outside patrol areas: those smelling of alcohol were double that of resuscitation group: most victims receive EAR within the first 5 mins, 5 patients had EAR for up to 2 hours. Use of masks increased greatly from previous studies, oxygen used in 5% rescued and 88% resuscitated. Rips accounted for 38% of rescues and 18.5% of resuscitation groups: 10% rescued and 22% resuscitated had jaw clenching; 28% rescued and 58% people resuscitated regurgitated during resus.