

## COMMON PARTICIPANT ERRORS

Lesson	Examples of Common Errors
3	<p><b>Active Victim Front Rescue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not keeping straight arms throughout</li> <li>■ Pushing the victim onto their back</li> <li>■ Not having the victim lean forward on the tube to stay up</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Active Victim Rear Rescue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not communicating with the victim after making contact</li> <li>■ Trying to put the active victim into a vertical position</li> <li>■ Trying to put them completely on their back</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Passive Victim Front Rescue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Grasping the victim's arm in the incorrect place (topside instead of underside)</li> <li>■ Unable to easily turn the victim face-up by pulling and twisting the arm</li> <li>■ Not pushing the tube (with a straight arm) under the victim's back during the turn</li> <li>■ Letting go of one arm before in position to tow</li> <li>■ Victim's head not in an open airway position during the tow</li> <li>■ Not reaching over the tube for the tow</li> <li>■ Not hooking the towing arm tight during the tow</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Passive Victim Rear Rescue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Victim's head not in an open airway position during the tow</li> <li>■ Not reaching over the tube for the tow, not hooking the towing arm tight during the tow</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Multiple Victim Rescue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not supporting the victim's head above water</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Passive Submerged Victim—Shallow Water:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Taking the rescue tube off completely</li> <li>■ Victim's head not in an open airway position during the tow</li> <li>■ Not reaching over the tube for the tow</li> <li>■ Not hooking the towing arm tight during the tow</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Feet-First Surface Dive:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Positions that promote buoyancy rather than support submerging if the person is not submerging</li> <li>■ Hold the breath</li> <li>■ Looking straight ahead or up toward the surface</li> <li>■ Using legs in a way to move to the surface such kicking</li> <li>■ Movements that fight submerging—legs spread not streamlined</li> <li>■ Not using sweeping arm movements to assist submerging</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Head-First Surface Dive:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Positions that promote buoyancy rather than support submerging if the person is not submerging</li> <li>■ Holding the breath</li> <li>■ Not looking down toward the target</li> <li>■ Looking up toward the surface</li> <li>■ Not using sweeping arm movements to assist submerging</li> </ul>

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4	<p><b>Passive Submerged Victim—Deep Water:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Does not submerge to a position “standing” behind the victim (heel to toes)</li> <li>■ Does not grasp arm around the victim’s chest</li> <li>■ Does not feed the tube strap into their hand as they move toward the surface</li> <li>■ Unable to get the tube under the victim’s back before breaking the surface</li> <li>■ Victim’s head not in an open airway position during the tow</li> <li>■ Not reaching over the tube for the tow</li> <li>■ Not hooking the towing arm tight during the tow</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Extrication Using a Backboard at the Pool Edge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Does not submerge board deep enough</li> <li>■ Does not angle board once submerged to assist loading the victim</li> <li>■ Does not control the board and the victim</li> <li>■ Loses contact with the victim</li> <li>■ Does not keep the board low during removal</li> <li>■ Drops the board after removal</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Performing a Primary Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Failing to size up the scene</li> <li>■ Failing to determine responsiveness (infant: shout-tap-shout by tapping the foot)</li> <li>■ Failing to follow standard precautions</li> <li>■ Improperly opening the airway</li> <li>■ Checking an inappropriate pulse site (infant: not checking the brachial pulse site)</li> <li>■ Not looking at the chest while checking for breathing</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Using a Resuscitation Mask:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Improperly opening the airway</li> <li>■ Not obtaining a seal with the resuscitation mask, or not making the chest rise and fall</li> <li>■ Not looking at the chest while checking for breathing</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Giving Ventilations—Adult and Child:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not tilting the head</li> <li>■ Tilting the head too far back</li> <li>■ Failing to reassess for breathing and pulse</li> <li>■ Not looking at the chest when assessing for breathing</li> <li>■ Not noticing if the ventilations are inadequate (don’t cause the chest to rise)</li> <li>■ Providing ventilations at the incorrect ratio</li> <li>■ Breathing too hard or too soft</li> <li>■ Not obtaining a seal with the resuscitation mask or using an improperly sized mask for the victim</li> <li>■ Not counting out loud</li> </ul>

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5	<p><b>Giving Ventilations—Infant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not tilting the head</li> <li>■ Tilting the head past a neutral position</li> <li>■ Failing to recheck for breathing and a pulse</li> <li>■ Checking an inappropriate pulse site</li> <li>■ Giving ventilations that are too hard or at the wrong rate</li> <li>■ Not properly sealing the resuscitation mask</li> <li>■ Not looking at the chest when checking for breathing or not using a pediatric mask for the infant victim</li> <li>■ Not counting out loud</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Giving Ventilations Using a Bag-Valve-Mask Resuscitator—Two Rescuers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Maintaining a seal with the resuscitation mask</li> <li>■ Not squeezing the bag hard enough or squeezing the bag too hard</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Conscious Choking:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Failing to obtain the victim's consent</li> <li>■ Performing abdominal thrusts before back blows</li> <li>■ Positioning the hands improperly</li> <li>■ Not using the thumb side of the fist to give abdominal thrusts</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>CPR—Adult, Child and Infant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Compressions that are too shallow or too deep</li> <li>■ Interrupting compressions for too long or too frequently</li> <li>■ Incorrect hand position</li> <li>■ Failure to allow full recoil after each compression or inappropriate rate (speed) of compressions</li> <li>■ Incorrect rate of compressions and ventilations</li> <li>■ Inadequate ventilations</li> <li>■ Not counting out loud</li> <li>■ Not keeping straight arms/locking elbows</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Two-Rescuer CPR—Adult and Child:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Compressions that are too shallow or at an appropriate rate</li> <li>■ Compressing and ventilating at the same time</li> <li>■ Failing to call for a position change or using an incorrect cycle of compressions and ventilations</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Two-Rescuer CPR—Infant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Compressions that are too shallow or at an inappropriate rate</li> <li>■ Compressing and ventilating at the same time</li> <li>■ Failing to use the encircling thumbs technique</li> <li>■ Failing to call for a position change or using an incorrect cycle of compressions and ventilations</li> </ul>

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6	<p><b>Two-Rescuer CPR—Infant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Compressions that are too shallow or at an inappropriate rate</li> <li>■ Compressing and ventilating at the same time</li> <li>■ Failing to use the encircling thumbs technique</li> <li>■ Failing to call for a position change or using an incorrect cycle of compressions and ventilations</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Using an AED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not wiping the victim's chest</li> <li>■ Using pediatric AED pads on an adult or failing to resume CPR after delivery of a shock or incorrect CPR performance</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>CPR with Airway Obstruction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Using abdominal thrusts instead of chest compressions</li> <li>■ Failing to check the mouth for an object</li> <li>■ Performing a blind finger sweep</li> <li>■ Compressing too little or too much</li> <li>■ Failing to give ventilations or using the wrong finger to clear the object from the mouth</li> <li>■ Incorrect compression to ventilation ratio</li> <li>■ Not counting out loud</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Over-Arm Head Splint—Face-Up at the Surface:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not keeping the head above water</li> <li>■ Not firmly splinting the head</li> <li>■ Allowing the head to fall backwards</li> <li>■ Allowing the victim to run into swimmers or objects</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Head Splint—Face-Down at or Near the Surface:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not switching to an over-arm head splint when nearing the board</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Head Splint—Submerged Victim:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not returning to the surface at an angle</li> <li>■ Allowing the airway to become submerged after returning to the surface</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Spinal Backboarding—Deep Water:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Switching to the over-arm head splint too far away from the board and struggling</li> <li>■ Assisting rescuer does not place the rescue tube under the rescuer's arms for support</li> </ul>

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8	<p><b>Spinal Backboarding Procedure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Rescuers lose contact with the victim</li> <li>■ Does not angle the board deep enough for easy loading</li> <li>■ Does not switch to or use the over-arm head splint as nearing the board</li> <li>■ Failure to properly secure victim to the backboard</li> <li>■ No quick check for breathing</li> <li>■ Incorrect strap placement</li> <li>■ Not placing the victim's arms on their body</li> <li>■ Failure to communicate with the victim</li> <li>■ No access to, or too far away from, the head blocks and head strap</li> <li>■ Failure to maintain stabilization throughout</li> <li>■ Does not keep the board low to the ground during removal</li> <li>■ Drops the board after removal</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Spinal Backboarding Procedure—High Edges:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Both rescuers not in the water</li> <li>■ Unable to submerge the board under the victim for loading</li> <li>■ Rescuers lose contact with the victim</li> <li>■ Does not switch to or use the over-arm head splint as nearing the board</li> <li>■ Failure to properly secure victim to the backboard</li> <li>■ No quick check for breathing</li> <li>■ Incorrect strap placement</li> <li>■ Not placing the victim's arms on their body</li> <li>■ Failure to communicate with the victim</li> <li>■ No access to, or too far away from, the head blocks and head strap</li> <li>■ Failure to maintain stabilization throughout</li> <li>■ Does not keep the board low to the ground during removal</li> <li>■ Drops the board after removal</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Spinal Backboarding and Extrication—Speed Slide:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Rescuers not lifting the victim at the same time during removal</li> <li>■ Not calling for the slide to be turned off</li> <li>■ Allowing the victims airway to become submerged</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Waterfront/Rescue Board Skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allowing the victim's airway to remain submerged when flipping the board</li> <li>■ Running into the victim with the board</li> <li>■ Having the board on the wrong side when starting to move the victim onto the board</li> </ul>