



## Poor air quality at indoor pools is being increasingly linked to respiratory illnesses in swimmers and staff.

- A 2014 study found the prevalence of asthma, allergic rhinitis, and the use of asthma medication among a group of competitive swimmers increased significantly over a 3-year period.
- A 2017 study found lifeguards who worked at indoor aquatic facilities more than 500 hours per year were much more likely to suffer from respiratory illnesses than lifeguards who worked fewer hours.

### Why is this happening?

The culprits are likely harmful chemical compounds that can build up in the air of indoor aquatic facilities. Breathing in these compounds can lead to a variety of health issues, including nasal and skin irritation, stinging eyes, coughing and wheezing, shortness of breath, and asthma attacks.

We need to better define operating conditions that lead to indoor air quality measurements known to be safe for swimmers and patrons.



### What can we do?

The CMAHC is committed to facilitating research on this important public health issue. Show your support through **a donation of any amount** toward an ongoing research project between the CMAHC's Committee for Indoor Aquatic Facility Ventilation Design and Air Quality and Purdue University. The project includes work to develop a mathematical model that will identify the connections between indoor air health, pool design, and pool operations. The results of the research will help the aquatics industry understand real world design and operational issues and how to best address them to ensure safe air quality measurements for swimmers and patrons.



*Driven by your expertise.*

Contact Kristie Riester ([KristieRiester@cmahc.org](mailto:KristieRiester@cmahc.org)) with your pledge today.