

Building and Plumbing Newsflash 555

Changes to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) sign requirements

Purpose

As at 28 October 2016, changes to the pool safety laws concerning CPR sign requirements commenced.

Background

Under the *Building Act 1975*, pool owners must comply with the pool safety standard which is defined as the Queensland Development Code, Mandatory Part 3.4 and any other standard prescribed under a regulation, which can include the form of a resuscitation sign and the way it must be displayed.

The current pool safety laws, which commenced on 1 December 2010, require pool owners to display a CPR sign near a regulated pool. This is a requirement under the *Building Regulation 2006*. Before 28 October 2016 the CPR sign was required to comply with 'Guideline 7—cardiopulmonary resuscitation' published by the Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) in February 2006. This guideline provided that breaths must precede compressions.

The ARC has revised its CPR Guideline 7 to Guideline 8 which provides that compressions must precede breaths. Guideline 8 also alters the rate of compressions.

Changes to pool safety laws

CPR signs to comply with ARC Guideline 8

On 28 October 2016, the *Building (Swimming Pool Safety—CPR Signs) Amendment Regulation 2016* amended the CPR signage requirements. It requires new pool owners and those owners replacing their CPR sign from 1 January 2017 to display a sign complying with Guideline 8.

A transitional provision allows current pool owners to display their existing Guideline 7 compliant CPR sign until the sign becomes illegible, at which time they will be required to upgrade to a new sign complying with Guideline 8.

A transitional provision also allows owners of existing and new pools who are replacing or installing a sign before 1 January 2017 to use a sign complying with either Guideline 7 or 8.

Contact for further information

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Note: Building Industry and Policy representatives are available to respond to inquiries from heads of industry bodies.

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