The NOPREN Drinking Water Working Group focuses on policies and economic issues regarding affordable and safe drinking water access in various settings. The working group is an effort of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN). Membership in the working group is voluntary and involves regular participation in working group meetings to share research findings and plan for new projects. Anyone working in the field of water access and intake is welcome to join the working group.

**MISSION**
Conduct research and evaluation to help identify, develop, and implement drinking water-related policies, programs, and practices.

**VISION**
Our vision is to foster an understanding of the effectiveness of policies, programs, and practices as levers to improve access to affordable and safe drinking water in child care, schools, worksites, and other community settings for all to have a fair chance at health.

**KEY ACTIVITIES & FINDINGS**
The NOPREN Drinking Water Working Group builds on existing research activities of working group members and explores opportunities for collaboration. Key priorities and activities are summarized below.

1. **Conduct Collaborative Research:** *Serve as a hub for researchers and practitioners to partner on research projects related to water safety, access and intake.*
   1. Explore impact of water programs and policies in early childhood, school, retail and community settings.
   2. Seek resources to support water-related research projects and evaluations.
   3. Identify effective tools and strategies for assessing water environments and promoting water intake.

2. **Engage Researchers New to the Area of Water**
   1. Generate innovative research questions with implications for water safety, cost, access and intake.
   2. Pursue novel research opportunities that relate to water across the lifespan and in various settings.
   3. Facilitate brainstorming and collaboration across disciplines through partnerships with other NOPREN working groups.
3. Communicate Water-Related Research via Publications and Products: *Share research findings and best practices with key stakeholders on local, state and national levels.*

   1. Raise awareness of up-to-date water research and resources through sharing of communications materials and educational opportunities.
   2. Build partnerships with organizations that focus on water, sugary drinks, children’s health and wellness, and more.
   3. Translate research findings into materials that can be easily disseminated to practitioners in priority settings.

**CONTACTS**

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**ABOUT NOPREN**

The Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN) is a thematic Research network of the Prevention Research Centers Program. The CDC’s Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (DNPAO) created NOPREN to foster understanding of the effectiveness of policies to prevent childhood obesity through improved access to affordable, healthier foods and beverages in child care, schools, worksite, and other community settings.

The mission of NOPREN is to conduct transdisciplinary practice-based policy research and evaluation along the continuum of policy identification, development, and implementation by: identifying relevant policies that foster or inhibit healthier lifestyles, describing the process of developing and implementing policies, evaluating adopted policy content, intent, and enforcement, evaluating outcomes, co-benefits, and consequences of policies, and translating and disseminating research findings and lessons learned to diverse audiences.

Visit [www.nopren.org](http://www.nopren.org) for more information.