



Three weeks later, while attending the prestigious American Swim Coaches Association's World Clinic, an incredible coincidence happened. As Rob stepped onto the hotel elevator, he began talking with a very nice couple. After some discussion, he recognized that the woman was Dr. Rhonda Milner from the CNN interview he had watched. She had come to the ASCA conference to connect with and educate swim coaches about this preventable tragedy. As she informed Rob, shallow water blackout does indeed happen in competitive swimming more often than one might think. The death of one of Bob Bowman's (Michael Phelps' coach) swimmers in 2014 due to a blackout while doing extra swim practice is just one example.

Rob mentioned Dean's story and to his surprise, learned that Dr. Milner had already been in close contact with Dean. Call it Divine intervention or the Universe collaborating, but this "chance meeting" was meant to happen. It inspired Rob to introduce Dr. Milner to his many contacts at the clinic and in competitive swimming ever since. This "chance encounter" has also inspired Rob and the team at Vasa to leverage their influence to promote SWBP awareness and education throughout competitive swimming worldwide.

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