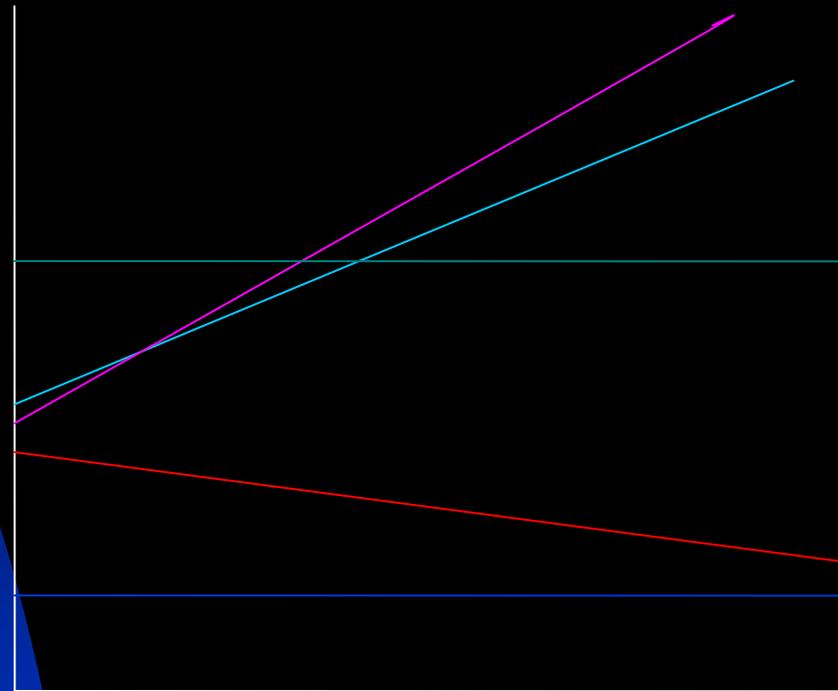


Creating a Comprehensive Public Swimming Pool and Water Attraction Program to Provide Safe Water Recreation in Wisconsin

Tracynda Davis
February 2006



Number



Patrons

New Attractions

**Public
Perception**

Funding

Data Reporting

Time in Years

Behavior Over Time

Accidental Adversaries

Lack of Common Goals

Focus on "Symptoms"

Shift of responsibility for services

Drifting Goals

Attention focused on immediate treatment needs

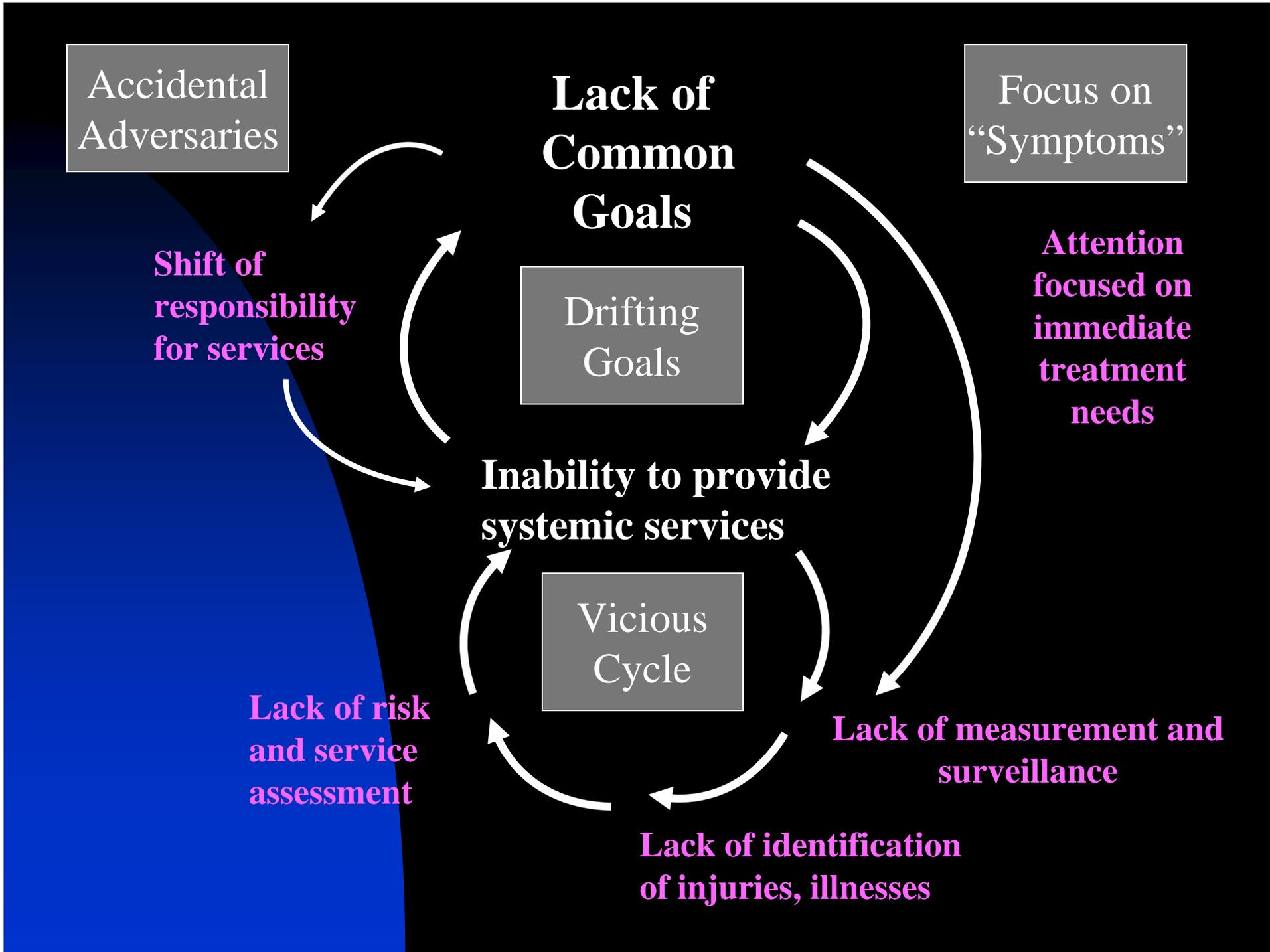
Inability to provide systemic services

Vicious Cycle

Lack of risk and service assessment

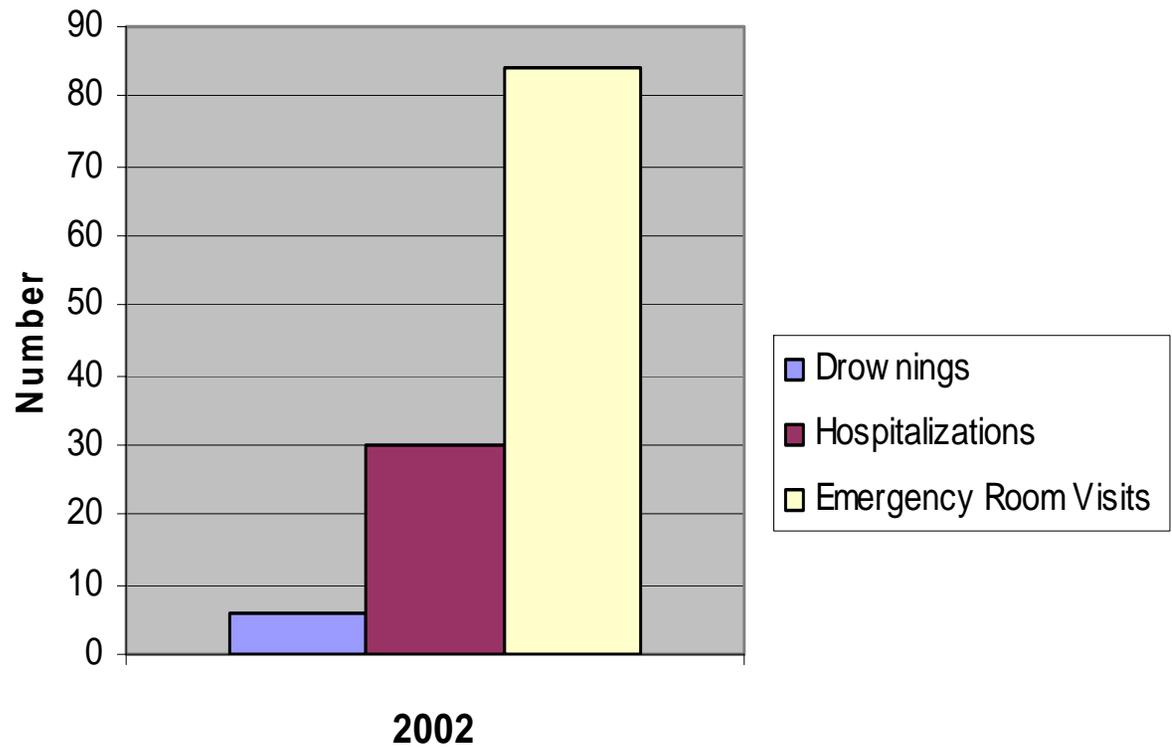
Lack of measurement and surveillance

Lack of identification of injuries, illnesses



Problem

Morbidity and Mortality of Pool Related Drownings in 2002



Source: Wisconsin DPH

Factors Contributing to the Problem

- Lack of baseline data on the number of injuries, and drownings
- Lack baseline data on sanitary conditions of water parks
- Waterborne illness data not in format conducive for surveillance
- Lack of database system to store and retrieve this type of data.

Factors Contributing to the Problem

- Lack of awareness of pool owners and operators of standards
- Lack of enforcement system in place to deal with repeat violators

Program Goal

- Have a program in place that is effective in reducing the rate of injuries, illness and drowning occurring in public swimming pools and water attractions, where unsafe or unhealthy conditions exist.

Activities

- Purchase effective tool to organize data
- Establish baseline data by completing a sanitary survey of water attractions
- Create Partnerships
- Obtain injury, illness and mortality records from Vital Statistics Section associated with public pools

Activities continued

- Obtain injury and illness data from EMS, police officials, insurance companies and other organizations that gather information on public pools
- Separate drowning and injury data in public pools from all other venues
- Provide education and training for pool operators on safety measures and waterborne illness prevention

Monitor Health Sanitary Survey of Water Attractions

Summary

Under WI administrative code requirements for safe pool operation :

- 94% were bacteriologically compliant
- 88% compliant with free chlorine residuals

National Goals Supported

- CDC Goal: Healthy People in a Healthy World
Healthy Travel and Recreation

- And National Strategy Goal II: Support Research – Objectives:
 - 1) Define effective approach to address existing and emerging needs
 - 2) Engaging in community involvement
 - 3) Encourage innovative environmental public health practices and services that emphasis prevention

Next steps

- Enter data into system
- Analyze database
- Review with current policies
- Maintain partnerships
- Educate and empower
- Evaluate

Expected Outcomes

- Reduction of risk factors contributing to injuries, illnesses and drownings
- Assurance
- Safe Water Recreation

For Further Information Contact:

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