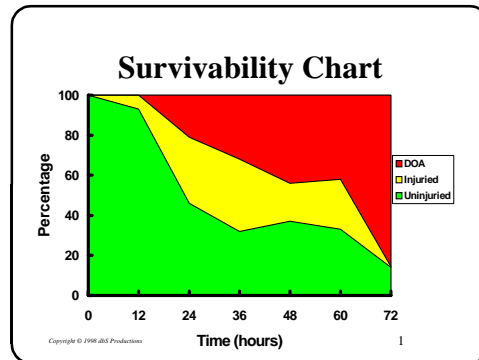


11. Survivability Chart



The graph presents a visual summation of nearly 100 lost Alzheimer's disease cases from Virginia data collected over several years. There is a narrow window where all subjects are located alive. Injuries and fatalities begin after 12 hours. The small percentage that remains uninjured even after 72 hours represents those cases that

sought shelter in a structure (often abandoned) or were found hiding inside a residence. The chart is just a guide: inclement weather, clothing, and entry into water will greatly modify actual survival.

12. Survival Statistics

- No deaths occurred when subject found within 12 hours of the time last seen
- If subject found dead (DOA), average time to contact state Search & Rescue (SAR) resources was 50 hours
- If subject found uninjured, average to contact SAR equaled 12.3 hours
- In this study of 100 subjects, all deaths were due to environment factors (dehydration, hypothermia, drowning)

Time to contact SAR involves three important components. The first is the amount of time it takes the family or caregiver to notice the patient is missing. The second component is the time it takes the caregiver to contact local law enforcement. The Alzheimer's Association's Safe Return program recommends that caregivers spend 15 minutes looking before contacting law enforcement. However, one study found 50% wait much longer. The final component is the time law enforcement take to initiate a search with trained SAR resources.

13. Additional Search Problems

- Searches may grow rapidly
- Searches attract intensive media attention
- Searches are resource intensive
- Searches have high liability potential
- Fortunately, proper initial actions often results in rapid finds and reduced fatalities