

Health aspects of pool and spa operations

Isabel B. Pereira

Luís Simas

Mihály Kádár





Basis of action

- Protocol Art 6 §2.
- Importance of tourism
 - Financial component of national development.
 - Potential transboundary health issues
- Right to information concerning health risks
 - Microbial risks
 - Physical risks
 - Chemical risks.



Main hazard sources

- Swift advance of entertainment technology without due assessment and control of health risks
- Overwhelming market dominance without proper surveillance and consumer protection
- Competition-driven management conduct
- Weak preparedness of national regulatory authorities
- Consumer's ignorance and carelessness



Main tools of risk treatment

- Consumer and health protection at the level of product and service authorization
- Broad resort to international standards and informed implementation thereof
- Comprehensive training of supervisory authorities
- Well-designed health surveillance system
- Encouraging third party pool safety appraisals
- Consumer information and education

Action by Parties



- Raise level of understanding
- Transfer know-how
- Cooperation in research, fundraising and international standardization
- Harmonization of national approaches
- International education and training



Relevant activities

- Biannual pool and spa conferences
 - Since 2005, no cost to the Protocol
- Network
 - Focal point: University of Swansea (UK)
- Further development depends on critical level of activity and successful fundraising.
- Hungary is ready to play catalytical role, but partners are needed – watch your mailbox!

4th Pool and Spa Conference (Porto, 15 – 18 March 2011)



- <http://www.isep.ipp.pt/swimmingconference>
- Aims
 - Create national group on health protection in recreational water environment
 - Establish dialogue with EC and national institutes to develop regulations and standards
 - Promote good practice

4th Pool and Spa Conference (Porto, 15 – 18 March 2011) cont



- Follow-up activities
- Promote activities that may result in the development of analytical laboratory procedures for environmental quality monitoring in the recreational water environment
- Ensure regular technical and scientific publications

THANK YOU

