



THE PROBLEM:

- Stroke kills 140,000 Americans each year (5% of total deaths)
- 3 months post-stroke, 1 in 3 patients are either dead or functionally dependent on care-givers
- Stroke incidence and mortality are higher among African-Americans and Hispanics
- Lack of care coordination contributes to negative outcomes
- Little is known about the organization delivery & financing of stroke services in the community

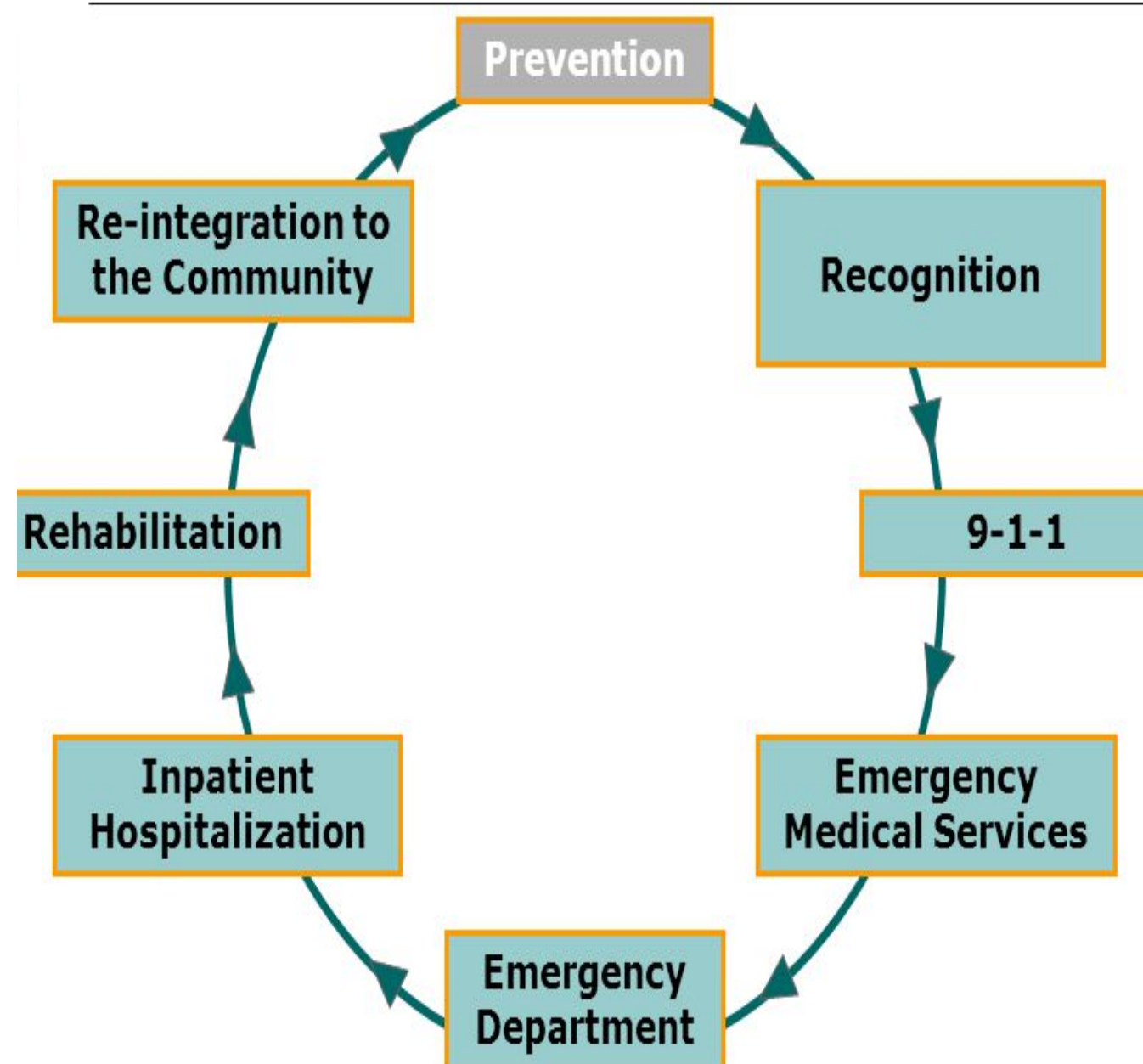
RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- How is the stroke continuum of care organized, delivered & financed in an inner-city community?
- What are the challenges & opportunities to improve the stroke continuum of care in an inner-city community?

METHODS:

- Design: Descriptive case study
- Population of interest: Providers & other stakeholders involved in the continuum of stroke care
- Sampling Plan/Setting: Convenience & snowball sampling of 10-15 providers & other stakeholders
- Data collection:
 - Review internet and other documents to identify resources for stroke prevention & care in the community
 - Interviews: Audio recording & note taking
- Analysis plan:
 - Thematic analysis of notes taken during interviews
 - Colaizzi method to identify themes

The Stroke Continuum



STROKE BY THE NUMBERS



80% OF ALL STROKES CAN BE PREVENTED



IMPLICATIONS:

- Understanding challenges & opportunities can guide system improvement
- Identifying opportunities for change to improve structures & processes to enhance care coordination
- Comparing findings to best practices can highlight needed system improvements