

COVID-19 Cardiac Stakeholder Forum #17

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

DATE: August 13, 2020 | 8:00 – 9:00 AM

DISCLAIMER: The information in this document represents a high-level summary to capture the discussion at the point of time of the meeting and is NOT general guidance.

GROUPS REPRESENTED: Over 80 people joined the call with representation from CorHealth Cardiac Leadership Council, CorHealth Vascular and Stroke Leadership Chairs, Ministry of Health, Ontario Base Hospital-MAC, Ontario STEMI Network, Cardiac Medical Directors, Program Administrators, Cath Lab Medical Directors, EP Medical Directors, interventional cardiologists, and cardiac surgeons.

HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 Epidemiology Update & Treatment Updates

- Dr. Heather Ross provided an update on the current COVID-19 epidemiological trends, noting over 20 million global cases of COVID-19, with some upticks in areas that had leveled off
- In Ontario, there are just over 40,000 cases reported with only 3.9% currently active; a downtrend is seen in Ontario and the number of tests we continue to do per day is just under 25,000
- The Ontario Health Toronto Regional Dashboard was noted as a great resource for capturing a current picture of COVID-19 for the Toronto region
- Dr. Ross described our current state as being in the 'COVID Valley'; the virus is changing through genetic mutation, and this new strain shows increased frequency and global distribution
- An update was provided regarding current COVID-19 treatments underway, noting that multiple commercial assays are confirmed for use, but are still not presenting a good negative predictive value
- It was noted that serological testing should not be used to guide individual decisions about personal or occupation exposures, use of PPE, and physical distancing
- Several scientific studies were reviewed, and it was noted that there is evident concern that cardiomyopathy and heart failure related to COVID-19 may potentially evolve as the natural history of this infection becomes clearer

COVID-19 Updates from B.C. & Planning for a Potential Increase in Case / Second Wave

- Mr. Sean Hardiman, Mr. Nicholas Schnee & Mr. Athar Syed provided an update from B.C. regarding provincial return to service modelling for cardiac services & planning for an increase in cases
- Cardiac Services B.C. (CSBC) embarked on modelling activity to understand the potential impacts of the COVID-19 response on B.C.'s procedural cardiac service lines
- Several assumptions were made as to how they thought the system would behave, and there were additional implicit assumptions that would also affect the models (e.g., some assumptions around the extent to which services could get back up and running)
- Data was pulled from CSBC waitlist viewer, and permutations of scenarios were created based on average referrals / additions to waitlist
- Modelling results indicated that throughput needs to return to 100%, anything less and the waitlist continues to grow
- When modelled to an extended second wave, the waitlist could eventually surpass the other scenarios
- Based on actual numbers, they are seeing that the additions to the waitlist are currently lagging, and similar trends are being seen for Cath lab waitlists with peaks and valleys slightly more pronounced
- The B.C. team noted that the operational response was to have all cardiac sites in B.C., increase throughout in a staged approach to 100%; sites have employed various strategies to maintain capacity (e.g., diligent screening)

eCTAS Data Update

- Mirna Rahal presented a glimpse into the emergency departments for cardiac presentations through eCTAS data from Dec 1st, 2019 to August 2nd, 2020
- Cardiac ED presentations include chest pain and cardiac arrest
- It was noted that we do not observe a high increase in ED presentations for cardiac cases that reflect a pent-up demand or increase in severity or consequences of wait time; these trends may indicate that we are getting closer to pre-COVID-19 levels

OTHER UPDATES AND NEXT STEPS

- This week's cardiac report was circulated to Forum members; cardiac activity reports will continue on a bi-weekly basis over the summer months
- Next meeting of the group will be held Thursday, August 27th, 2020, from 8:00 – 9:00 am
- If group members have any questions or comments, please email to Jana.Jeffrey@corhealthontario.ca, and they will be included for discussion at future meeting