

COVID-19 Cardiac Stakeholder Forum #12

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

DATE: June 11, 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: Approximately 100 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

Analysis of Mortality on the Waitlist data (Garth Oakes)

- In follow-up to last week's forum discussion, an analysis of mortality on the waitlist data was provided
- The analysis included: removal of double counted deaths in the rare instances that patients waited for multiple procedures (mortality will be attributed to the highest acuity procedure) and also noted some deaths on the waitlist occurring prior to the MOH directive
- Following exclusions, the data indicated 51 deaths in 2019, and 61 deaths in 2020
- A wait time target of 42 days was applied to TAVI, Valve Surgery, and combined CABG + Valve Surgery patients
- CorHealth registry team will work with the hospitals to emphasize uniformity in how the mortality on the waitlist data is entered
- It was noted that some patients that had yet to be accepted for a procedure were also important, however, it is not clear how to capture these patients that suffered mortality prior to being accepted.

Service Resumption Planning: Open Forum Discussion

Hamilton – Niagara Experience (Dr. Madhu Natarajan)

- Dr. Natarajan described the Hamilton-Niagara experience with resumption planning
- Following COVID, there was immediate ramp-down, and some other changes included: a dedicated STEMI room, centralized triage with physician oversight,

structural cases prioritized with Cath/PCI

- A priority system was created across all procedures (priority 1: must occur; priority 2: could occur; priority 3: can wait)
- Dr. Natarajan noted that although these complex prioritization systems were created, they are not always discriminatory at the patient level
- Ongoing challenges include: 25% of outpatients do not wish to have procedure until “COVID” ends; there are differing IPAC protocols across regions; ongoing messaging related to PPE constraints; delays in interhospital transfer; delays in STEMI times; families or caregivers unable to attend with patient; summer plans unclear

William Osler: CV Ramp Down & Recovery (Dr. Dominic Raco)

- Dr. Raco presented William Osler’s ramp down and recovery experience
- A major challenge was moving the CCU to the cardiac procedures unit recovery area; this resulted in potential compromise to care of CCU patients and limited capacity to recovery Cath patients
- An internal coordinating recovery committee was established, with an outside consultant
- Preliminary plan has three phases, with phase 1 starting by June 22nd, which will increase their caseload by one outpatient per day
- It was noted that as part of an ongoing strategy to provide cardiovascular care during COVID-19, the health care system must expand ‘reserve resources’, reengineer nursing homes, develop and consolidate virtual care patient management, and develop regional cardiovascular specialty hospitals

Southlake: Ramping Up of Electrophysiology Procedures (Dr. Atul Verma)

- Dr. Verma provided an overview of Southlake’s Memorandum for ramping up of electrophysiology procedures, which outlines four phases
- Currently, device clinics are running at reduced volumes, with ablation rooms ramping up by 50%, however reduced volumes are being observed
- Moving forward, resources for complex ablation will require some re-thinking

Virtual Care: Cardiac Opportunities

- CorHealth stakeholders have identified virtual care as a key area of focus; CorHealth is embarking on a new initiative to explore virtual care opportunities, and will continue to engage forum members and key partners to understand the needs, priorities, barriers, gaps and opportunities related to virtual care

Heart & Stroke: Virtual Care – PWLE & Caregiver Surveys (Natalie Gierman)

- Natalie Gierman provided an overview of the current initiatives underway by the Heart & Stroke Foundation (HSF) regarding virtual care
- HSF has developed and distributed a PWLE & Caregiver survey regarding how they

are accessing virtual care, their experiences, and supports required – the results of this survey will be brought back to this forum

- Work by the HSF is underway to also develop a virtual care checklist/resource for cardiac patients

OTHER UPDATES AND NEXT STEPS

- This week's cardiac report was circulated to Forum members
- Next meeting of the group will be held Thursday, June 18, 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