

# COVID-19 Cardiac Stakeholder Forum #3

## MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

**DATE:** APRIL 2, 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.

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**GROUPS REPRESENTED:** More than 85 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

- Acknowledgement given to the work done thus far to support the cardiac community; update provided on the guidance documents now, or soon to be available, on the CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Centre website.
- Guidance documents may likely need review and updating, as the level of COVID-19 response in hospitals/regions evolve.
- CorHealth is establishing a stakeholder forum across the cardiac, stroke and vascular clinical domains to identify opportunities to deliver rehabilitative services to high risk populations during the COVID-19 crisis and to share resources with its broader stakeholder community.
- Information shared around virtual and remote monitoring tools, resources and major websites. This is available on the CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Page.
  - **Action for All:** If forum members are aware of other resources/tools beyond what was shared, please share with Jana Jeffrey at CorHealth.
- Good examples were shared on how regions/hospitals who are at different levels of COVID response (i.e. level 1,2, or 3), are reaching out to their adjacent/partner hospitals to gain access to urgent procedures (e.g. laser lead extraction).
- A provincial COVID-19 Critical Care Table has been struck. Dr. Kevin Smith is leading the group along with Dr. Jennifer Gibson; as well as a Surgical Table, led by Dr. Jon Irish and Dr. Robin McLeod, that is overseeing surgical planning for the

province. Critical care is providing ongoing data of the province's ICU capacity to the command centre.

- Varying opinions voiced among Forum members around continuing to receive referrals vs. asking referring community not to send (non-urgent) referrals. Continuing to receive referrals that continue to be made during this time is important to capture, as much as possible, information that will inform mortality and morbidity of patients, the impact of COVID-19, and enable active and ongoing management of the large number of patient referrals as COVID-19 abates.
- COVID-19 modeling work under way at the IHPME to build a COVID-19 resource model to inform COVID-19 related resource needs (e.g. ICU beds, ward beds and ventilation beds). Over the next week, it is anticipated that we will experience a COVID-19 surge. Stopping elective procedures at this time is critical to ensuring there are sufficient resources available to handle this surge.

#### **Summary of Cardiac Groups' Progress Updates:**

- Guidance documents for Structural Heart, Echocardiography (non-hospital), Management of Referrals for Cardiac Services, and Heart Failure to be posted on CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Centre soon.
- STEMI – working on communicating information to regional hospitals; limited knowledge among the regional community of this work currently.

#### **Cardiac Reporting**

- Delays/Cancellations report was pre-circulated, and it was noted that there is variation across centres of the ramp down of non-emergent services
- Mortality on the waitlist is low and plans will be to monitor in the context of COVID-19.
- Work is underway to develop a report that will support monitoring regional impacts of COVID cardiac bed utilization. Opportunity to gain insights into regional pressures as a result of COVID-19 were discussed.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Next meeting of the group will be held next Thursday, April 9, 2020, from 8:00 – 9:00 am
- If group members have any questions, please email to [Jana.Jeffrey@corhealthontario.ca](mailto:Jana.Jeffrey@corhealthontario.ca), and they will be included for discussion at future meetings