

COVID-19 Cardiac Stakeholder Forum #7

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

DATE: APRIL 30, 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: More than 120 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

- As hospitals work towards clinical activity recovery, it is possible that the way clinical care is provided moving forward will be different compared to pre-COVID-19 (e.g. use of virtual care).

Health Systems Update

- The Ontario Health COVID-19 Health System Response Oversight Table continues to meet (chaired by Dr. Chris Simpson). The table continues to work on their guidance document. It is not ready to be shared, as they have not yet received any signaling from Ontario Health to 'ramp up'.
- Access to PPE continues to be a critical area of focus in the discussion of resumption of services.
- Dr. H. Wijesundera discussed the impact of the Long-Term Care population on the modeling around ICU and ward bed usage during COVID-19. This information was also shared earlier this morning with the Oversight Table.

Cardiac Reporting to Support COVID-19 Planning

- G. Oakes provided an update on this week's cardiac report.
- The most recent weekly COVID-19 report was circulated to Forum members yesterday.
- Compared to last year, clinical activity continues to be significantly lower.

However, compared to last week, there is increase in activity in certain areas.

Complex Decision-Making in the Context of COVID-19

- Dr. B. Rubin presented on the development of a clinical activity recovery plan at University Health Network in Toronto. The plan includes:
 - A set of elements for consideration to ensure all programs and staff are thinking about the same things in planning for clinical activity recovery
 - Consequences of ramping up activity
 - Anticipated phases of clinical recovery
 - Discussion/Comments
 - Important for hospital executive/administration and patients receive the message from CorHealth around ramp up
 - Ramp up of clinical activity implies “catch up” and this will be challenging to accomplish (i.e. requires extended hours/weekends), and need to consider staff burnout
 - **Action Item:** CorHealth Ontario will share UHN's recovery planning document on the CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Centre webpage
- Dr. L. Sun, cardiac anesthesiologist, presented on the CardiOttawa Length of Stay Score and App, an ICU length of stay prediction tool
 - Dr. M. Ruel commented on his experience using this tool at the UOHL. The tool has been helpful in the efficient and appropriate selection of patients for cardiac surgery. The app has been easy to use and is used almost daily to help make clinical care and resourcing decisions. Recommends that this tool may be useful for other hospitals, and useful at a provincial level.
 - **Action Item:** CorHealth Ontario will share information and the link to Dr. Sun's app on the CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Centre web page.
- A. Iverson presented on the work under way at CorHealth Ontario to support virtual care/telemonitoring use during COVID-19 in the heart failure population.
 - Reiterated that a virtual care resource is available on the CorHealth COVID-19 Resource Centre web page.
 - The discussion around virtual care will likely continue at a future Cardiac COVID-19 Forum meeting.

Cardiac Work Streams Update

- STEMI – [Dr. M. Natarajan shared that a communication was sent to ED's](#) regarding key considerations when local modifications to STEMI management are required during COVID-19.

- Heart Failure – Dr. H. Ross shared comments on the heart failure work stream. A Heart Failure Forum meeting is scheduled for next week, focused on the resumption of care.
- Echocardiography – CorHealth COVID-19 Cardiac Memo #11 - Recommendations for an Ontario Approach to Triaging Echocardiographic Services During COVID-19 was released on April 29th.
- Cardiac Surgery and Cath/PCI - CorHealth COVID-19 Cardiac Memo #9 - Recommendations for an Ontario Approach to Prioritization of Cardiac Surgical Procedures for Treatment of Coronary Artery, Valvular and Other Cardiac Disease in Response to Phases of COVID-19 and CorHealth COVID-19 Cardiac Memo #10 - Recommendations for an Ontario Approach to Prioritization of Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization and Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in Response to Phases of COVID-19 were released last week.

NEXT STEPS

- Heart and Stroke Foundation, in collab with CCS, have a press release highlighting the importance that Canadians seek medical care if they are experiencing a change or worsening of symptoms and reminder of the signs and symptoms of heart attack and stroke
- Forum members expressed interest in continuing to meet on a weekly basis.
- Next meeting of the group will be held Thursday, May 7, 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 meetings