

COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Patient Cardiac Care

Dr Darren Mylotte (Galway, Ireland)

WE CARE

Impact of COVID-19 on IC Procedures



Roffi et al. EuroIntervention 2020;16:247-250





Cardiac Diagnostic Procedures



Einstein et al. JACC 2021; 77(2)173-85





Key Messages - COVID and ACS

- Admissions for ACS (STEMI / NSTEMI) reduced during lockdown
 - Greater impact on NSTEMI vs STEMI
- Patient presentation for treatment (STEMI) delayed
 - Increased time to first medical contact
 - Impact on door to balloon times variable
 - Reduced community CPR
 - More deaths at home
- Percutaneous treatment of CAD more likely during pandemic
- Reduced duration of hospital admission for ACS
 - STEMI: 3 days 2 days
 - NSTEMI: 5 days 2 days
- Increased CVD mortality during COVID-19 lockdown







Delayed Presentation for STEMI Care

WE CARE



Rodriguez-Leor et al. Rev Esp Cardiol 2020 Dec;73(12):994-1002





Mafham et al. Lancet 2020; 6736(20)31356-8





ACS in COVID-19 + Patients = Poor Outcome

In-hospital outcomes of Covid-19 ST elevation myocardial infarction patients



Rodriguez-Leor et al. Rev Esp Cardiol 2020 Dec;73(12):994-1002





ACS Outcome During COVID-19 Lockdown



Outcome	2017-2019	Mar 2020	Р
Death	2059 (1.8)	45 (1.7)	0.67
MACE (death, reinfarction, PCI)	2498 (2.2)	51 (1.9)	0.30

Kwok et al. Circ Cardiovasc Interv 2020;13:e009654





Impact of COVID-19 on Stable Coronary Syndromes

Kwok et al. Circ Cardiovasc Interv 2020;13:e009654





Weekly Death Rates by Cardiovascular Cause

WE CARE

Wadhera, R. K. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2021;77(2):159-69





COVID and Structural Heart Disease Procedures



COVID-TAVI Study (work in progress)

Data available from 34 international centres

- 23% stopped TAVI
- 38.3% reduced TAVI

• Data from BIBA Med Tech

- TAVI expansion delayed
- Negative impact of delaying TAVI



WE CARE





BIBA MedTech TAVI Tracker







Impact of Deferring TAVI due to COVID-19



Ryffel et al. JAMA Open 2020;3(9):e2020402





Impact of Deferring TAVI due to COVID-19

- **10%** experience a cardiac event **within 1 month** of TAVI deferral
- **35%** experience a cardiac event **within 3 months** of TAVI deferral

Ro et al. JAMA Open 2020;3(9):e2019801





Cardiac Injury from COVID-19 Infection



Cardiac Injury from COVID-19

Myocardial injury from cytokine storm manifested by elevated levels of interleukin-6 (IL-6), ferritin, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), and D-dimer

WE CARE

Myocardial dysfunction from the direct effect of COVID-19 on the heart via ACE2 (homolog of angiotensin-converting enzyme that converts angiotensin II to angiotensin 1 to 7, thereby diminishing vasoconstriction mediated by the renin angiotensin system)

> Hypercoagulable state, resulting in an increased rate of thrombotic and thromboembolic events

- C-reactive protein, ferritin, and D- dimer
- neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio
- > production of cytokines such as IL-6, IL-7
- tumor necrosis factor (TNF)
- inflammatory chemokines including CCchemokine ligand 2 (CCL2), CCL3 and CXCchemokine ligand 10 (CXCL10)

Hypoxia-induced excessive intracellular calcium leading to cardiac myocyte apoptosis

Miriam Merad and Jerome C. Martin. Nature Reviews Immunol 2020;20(6):355-362. Clerkin KJ, et al. Circulation. 2020;141:1648-1655.



PCR

WE CARE

Cardiac Injury from COVID-19

- Inflammatory cells and viral inclusions cause endotheliitis and vasculitis
- Hyperinflammatory response may also lead to stress cardiomyopathy (Takotsubo), secondary to the release of potent inflammatory cytokine and sympathetic surge
- Stress cardiomyopathy may also be related to microvascular injury secondary to catecholamineinduced microvascular dysfunction

Arrhythmias secondary to myocardial injury or ischemia, hypoxia, shock, electrolyte disturbances, or medications that prolong the QT interval

- atrial fibrillation (3.6%)
- non-sustained ventricular tachycardia (1.4%)
- brady-arrhythmias (1.3%)
- cardiac arrest (1.3%)

Pericardial effusion secondary to direct viral cytotoxic effects, systemic inflammation, or immune-mediated mechanisms

Bhatla A, et al. Heart Rhythm 2020;17:1439-1444. Ortega-Paz L, et al. JAHA 2020, Nov 24 ahead of print https://doi.org/10.1161/JAHA.120.019650





Bikdeli B, et al. Thromb Haemost. 2020;120:1004-1024.





Strategic Recommendations

Cardiac injury from COVID-19

- The mechanism for which COVID-19 causes cardiac injury depends on the severity of the disease affecting the patient
- Inflammation leading to thrombosis and coagulopathy seem to play a central role among the reported complications
- The severity of complications are **directly linked** to the severity of the COVID-19 infection





Diagnostics/ACS/PCI

• Inform patients and HCPs

- Reduction in diagnostic procedures / OPD has an impact
- Increased time to first medical contact in ACS
- Less bystander CPR
- HCPs need to maintain door to balloon time
- More CV deaths at home
- Patients afraid

• COVID-19 increased mortality due to ischaemic heart disease

• Reminder of the natural history of CVD

(COVID-19 has reduced allocation to CABG /COVID-19 reduced LOS for ACS)





TAVI

• Inform patients and HCPs

- Reduction in TAVI volume a/w COVID-19 pandemic
- TAVI deferral a/w adverse outcomes
- Strategies to avoid TAVI deferral





Cardiac Injury from COVID-19

• Inform patients and HCPs

- COVID-19 infection can impact the heart
- Severity of COVID-19 infection determines outcome
- **Specific treatment targets** may emerge but no clear evidence for specific therapies to date





A Final Word

Diagnosis and treatment of CVD should be designated **a health system priority that remains intact** during pandemia as the magnitude of harm induced by its interruption is **substantial**.

Blanchet, K. et al. BMJ Glob Health 2020;5:e003675.



