



Figure 1: Sample posts (thumbnails only) from the “Dial Don’t Drive” social media campaign

## P029 ESTIMATED PULSE WAVE VELOCITY INDEPENDENTLY PREDICTS SURVIVAL-TO- DISCHARGE IN PATIENTS REQUIRING EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION: A SINGLE-CENTRE RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

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**BACKGROUND:** Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is a life-saving device used to support the respiratory and/or cardiovascular function of acutely ill patients. While this supportive device is widely used in intensive care units around the world, appropriate patient selection is difficult given the high associated morbidity and mortality of those requiring this level of intervention. One possible solution to the heterogeneity of ECMO patients is to determine a variable that reflects a chronic marker of health and has independent strength in predicting overall morbidity and mortality. A suitable candidate for this variable is Arterial Stiffness (AS), a chronic marker of vascular compliance, demonstrated to have strong correlation with cardiovascular disease, peripheral vascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, renal disease, and all-cause mortality. Additionally, AS has been shown to be strongly influenced by systemic inflammation, as seen in ECMO patients. In this study, we aim to understand the benefit of estimated pulse-wave velocity, a metric of AS, as an independent predictor of outcomes and survival-to-discharge in our cohort of ECMO patients.

**METHODS AND RESULTS:** A retrospective cohort study was performed at the London Health Science Centre (LHSC) in London, Ontario, Canada between 1996–2021, totaling 255 patients requiring ECMO. Estimated pulse wave velocity (ePWV) was calculated using an algorithm generated from the Reference Values for Arterial Stiffness Collaboration. Recorded outcomes included: in-hospital death, ischemic stroke, hemorrhagic stroke, renal failure and need for renal replacement therapy (RRT). For adjusted analysis, survival-to-discharge was used. Multivariate logistic regression and propensity-score matching were utilized to

control for confounding. On univariate logistic regression, ePWV was found to have a significant protective effect for renal failure (OR 0.88 [0.78-0.99],  $p=0.034$ ) and RRT (OR 0.87 [0.77-0.98],  $p=0.027$ ). Higher ePWV was also found to be significantly predictive of ischemic stroke (OR 1.676 [1.31-2.37],  $p=0.0002$ ) and in-hospital death (OR 1.20 [1.06-1.38],  $p=0.006$ ), but insignificant for predicting hemorrhagic stroke (OR 1.07 [0.74-1.55],  $p=0.710$ ). On multivariate analysis and propensity-score matching, 5 of 6 models demonstrated ePWV as a significant independent predictor of survival-to-discharge. (OR 0.70 [0.57-0.84],  $p=0.00021$ , OR 0.72 [0.60-0.86],  $p=0.0002$ , OR 0.87 [0.75-1.00],  $p=0.045$ , OR 0.85 [0.74-0.97],  $p=0.013$ )

**CONCLUSION:** This study presents ePWV as a promising marker for risk-stratification in ECMO patients. It furthers understanding of the role of arterial health in disease trajectory and strengthens the validity of AS as a marker of interest in medical and surgical management. Further research is needed to validate these findings and develop tangible tools for clinical application.

## P030 SAFETY AND FEASIBILITY OF VERY EARLY DISCHARGE IN LOW-RISK PATIENTS WITH STEMI AFTER PRIMARY PCI

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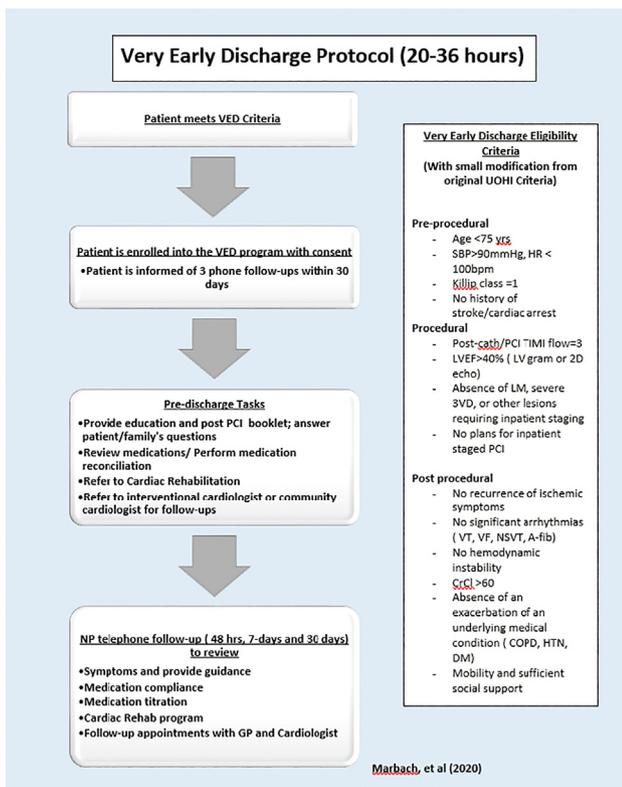
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**BACKGROUND:** Very early discharge (VED) ( $\leq 36$  hours) for low risk ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients has been reported in small registries but data on real world clinical outcomes with this approach is limited. We prospectively enrolled low-risk STEMI patients into a VED protocol and compared outcomes with similar patients discharged at 36-72 hours.

**METHODS AND RESULTS:** Between April 2021- March 2022, 479 patients admitted with STEMI underwent primary PCI (PPCI). Low-risk patients were identified using the University of Ottawa Heart Institute criteria, and after providing informed consent were discharged home 20-36 hours after hospital admission. All patients had telephone follow-up by a nurse practitioner (NP) at 2 days, 7 days and 30 days post discharge. The NP assessed symptoms, and provided education and medication titration. The control group consisted of 82 STEMI patients admitted between 2019-2020 who met the low-risk criteria and were discharged between 36-72 hours as per standard practice. Death, major adverse cardiac events (MACE), re-admissions and ER visits within 30 days were collected for both groups. Additional outcomes which included patients' satisfaction and experience of the VED protocol were measured by a survey after 30 days. Among the 479 STEMI patients undergoing PPCI during the study period, 27% ( $n=131$ ) were identified as low risk. Of these, 61% ( $n=80$ ) were enrolled in the VED protocol. 39% of the patients were not enrolled because study investigator's

unavailability, patients' repatriation to other hospitals, and physician's / patients' preference. All patients were contacted up to 30 days with no loss to follow-up. The median length of stay (LOS) was 27.2 hours (IQR 9.7 hours) for the VED group and 48.2 hours (IQR 11.8 hours) for the control group ( $p < 0.0001$ ). There were no deaths or MACE in either group. There were no significant differences in the rates of re-admission ( $p = 0.36$ ) and ER visits ( $p = 0.61$ ). After 30 days, 94% of the VED patients were pleased with the early discharge, 5% wished they could have stayed in hospital longer, 1% was not available to answer survey questions.

**CONCLUSION:** Low risk STEMI patients treated with PPCI can be discharged 20-36 hours with the support of a structured virtual 30 day follow-up by an NP. Clinical outcomes appear to be very favorable and similar to patients who are discharged after 36 hours. This strategy appears to be safe and can be a helpful tool to improve clinical efficiency in resource constrained hospital environment.



period. The most recent AHA/ACC and ESC guidelines recommend BB use post-MI. However, the guidelines do admit to limited evidence, particularly in patients with preserved left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF). There is also a paucity of data for BB use in patients with mild to moderate LV dysfunction. Our study aims to address the benefit of BB's across LVEF subgroups in the post-MI period.

**METHODS AND RESULTS:** We examined 7955 patients who underwent coronary angiography for a diagnosis of ACS between 2012-2016. Patients were categorized as follows: group 1 (LVEF >50%), group 2 (LVEF 35-50%), and group 3 (LVEF < 35%). LVEF was assessed by trans-thoracic echocardiography, if available, and if not left ventriculography. The primary outcome was all-cause mortality at 1-year. Incidence of the primary outcome was visualized with Kaplan-Meier survival curves. Associations were assessed using Cox proportional hazard modeling. These analyses were performed with and without propensity matching, to account for differences between patients who were or were not prescribed a BB. At index presentation, our cohort had a median age of 62, and 70% of patients were male. Patients who were prescribed beta-blockers were less likely to have a LVEF >50% (64% vs 77%,  $p < 0.001$ ). Figure 1 shows Kaplan-Meier survival curves stratified by LVEF and BB usage. In patients with LVEF < 35%, BB usage was associated with a significantly reduced all-cause mortality at 1-year (unadjusted hazard ratio [HR] 0.30,  $p = 0.044$ ). Patients with a LVEF 35-50% were less likely to die if prescribed beta-blockers (unadjusted HR 0.42,  $p = 0.001$ ). However, this was not the case in propensity matched analyses (unadjusted HR 0.80,  $p = 0.487$ ). Lastly, there was no significant difference in all-cause mortality in patients with preserved LVEF (unadjusted HR 1.16,  $p = 0.626$ ).

**CONCLUSION:** Our study demonstrates that BB use was associated with a significantly reduced all-cause mortality at 1 year in patients with severely reduced LVEF. However, in patients with preserved or mid-range LVEF, BB use was not associated with a significant difference in all-cause mortality using a propensity matched analysis. These results suggest clinicians may not need to be as aggressive in implementing widespread BB usage in patients with preserved or mid-range LVEF post-MI. Further large prospective trials would be of benefit to help further study the mid-range LVEF population.

**P031**  
**THE EFFECT OF BETA BLOCKAGE IN PATIENTS FOLLOWING ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME - STRATIFIED ACCORDING TO LEFT VENTRICULAR EJECTION FRACTION.**

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**BACKGROUND:** Beta blockers (BB) have been widely accepted as a standard of care in the post myocardial infarction (MI)

**Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier survival curves according to LVEF subgroup and beta-blocker use.**

