Transfer of Patients with ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction for Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention During Ordinary & Pandemic Times Position statement of the Saudi Arabian Cardiac Intervention Society

Follow this and additional works at: https://www.j-saudi-heart.com/jsha

Part of the Cardiovascular Diseases Commons, Critical Care Commons, and the Emergency Medicine Commons

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 License.

Recommended Citation

Al Saif, Shukri M.; Al Shammeri, Owayed; Alkhushail, Abdullah; Almohammadi, Ramzi; and Kurdi, Mohamed (2020) "Transfer of Patients with ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction for Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention During Ordinary & Pandemic Times Position statement of the Saudi Arabian Cardiac Intervention Society," Journal of the Saudi Heart Association: Vol. 32 : Iss. 4 , Article 7. Available at: https://doi.org/10.37616/2212-5043.1210

This SHA Recommendations is brought to you for free and open access by Journal of the Saudi Heart Association. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of the Saudi Heart Association by an authorized editor of Journal of the Saudi Heart Association.
Transfer of Patients with ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction for Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention During Ordinary & Pandemic Times

Position statement of the Saudi Arabian Cardiac Intervention Society

Shukri Al Saif, Owayed Al Shammeri, Abdullah Alkhushail, Ramzi Almohammadi, Mohamed Kurdi

Abstract

Primary percutaneous coronary intervention is the most effective therapy in the management of acute ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction. Evidence recommends keeping the period from symptom onset to reperfusion to a minimum in order to preserve left ventricular function, improve outcome, and reduce mortality. This position statement describes the recommendations of the Saudi Arabian Cardiac Intervention Society for optimal conditions and timing for the acute management of patients presenting with ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction during ordinary and pandemic times.

Keywords: STEMI, PCI, ACS, Transfer, Pandemic

1. Introduction

Primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PPCI) is the most effective therapy in the management of acute ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) [1]. Evidence recommends keeping the period from symptom onset to reperfusion to a minimum in order to preserve left ventricular function, improve outcome, and reduce mortality [2,3,4].

Currently, many hospitals offer PPCI services in Saudi Arabia. Data from the first Saudi Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry Program showed that STEMI was the most frequent presentation of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and that 29% of patients received thrombolytic therapy, 45% had PPCI, 3% had pharmaco-invasive approach while 29% received neither thrombolytic therapy nor PPCI. Among patients who had PPCI, 65% of men had a door-to-balloon time (D2BT) of less than 90 minutes whilst only 42% of women were treated in a timely manner. Additionally, just 5.2% of all acute coronary syndrome (ACS) patients utilized an ambulance service to reach a hospital [5].

Received 8 September 2020; revised 30 October 2020; accepted 1 November 2020.
Available online 18 December 2020

* Corresponding author. Saud Al-Babtain Cardiac Center, Dammam, Saudi Arabia.
E-mail address: shukrisaif@yahoo.com (S. Al Saif).

https://doi.org/10.37616/2212-5043.1210
2212-5043© 2020 Saudi Heart Association. This is an open access article under the CC-BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).
During a Pandemic situation, practice is modified to limit the spread and contain the infection. Transporting a patient with droplet and or airborne transmitted infection may constitute unacceptable risk for the team responsible for the transfer without appropriate personal protective equipment. In addition implementing appropriate personal protective equipment may cause unacceptable delays that may result in loss of the expected benefit for the transfer if this cannot be achieved within the recommended time window [6,7,8,9].

These recommendations have been made following the GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation) Working Group. This system was developed and refined to assess the certainty of evidence of effects and strength of recommendations [10,11,12]. The GRADE system classifies the quality of evidence as high, moderate or low and offers two grades for the recommendations: Either strong where the desirable effects clearly outweigh the undesirable effects or weak where the tradeoffs between desirable effects and the undesirable effects are less certain. Some recommendations are based on expert consensus. In some situations, performing further studies is either not possible or unlikely to be clinically worthwhile, thus some recommendations are based on low or very low-quality evidence. Some of these recommendations are still given strong status because of overwhelming consensus among practicing physicians that this is what should be done. Where there are randomized clinical trials showing clear benefit from certain treatments or actions these have been given strong recommendations status based on high quality evidence.

The recommendations were made in order to set an acceptable and desirable standard of care for patients presenting with STEMI. These recommendations should be used by practicing physicians as well as policy makers, hospital administrators as well as payers for healthcare to inform on the expected safe standards supported by best available evidence and that are applicable to practice conditions in Saudi Arabia. We relied on full text and abstract publications in English language in Pub Med. We also searched abstracts from the Saudi Heart Association meetings including the terms; STEMI transfer, PPCI, STEMI network and thrombolysis for STEMI.

2. Patient transfer for primary PCI versus on-site thrombolytic therapy

The Prospective Codi IAM network multi-center STEMI registry collected data from non-PCI capable centers. Thirty-day mortality of patients who had thrombolysis among those whose symptom onset to first medical contact (FMC) was less than 120 minutes was worse compared to those who were transferred to a PCI capable center with symptom onset to FMC less than 140 minutes. Although door to needle time (D2NT) was relatively long in the study, the mortality rate was 2% amongst patients treated in less than 99 minutes by PPCI in comparison to 7.7% in patients who received thrombolytic therapy [13].

In the Acute Coronary Treatment and Intervention Outcomes Network Registry-Get The Guidelines (ACTION-GWTG), 33,901 STEMI patients who were transferred for PPCI were studied. 26510 patients (78.2%) were transferred directly to a catheterization laboratory while 7,391 (21.8%) were transferred first to a hospital's emergency department. Compared with patients transferred to an emergency department, STEMI patients who were transferred to a cardiac catheterization unit had significantly lower first D2BT (median 191 versus 116 minutes, P < 0.0001). This was associated with lower mortality with a hazard ratio of 0.58 [14].

Current guidelines and practice are based on non-pandemic situations. During the current COVID-19 pandemic there is overwhelming concern for the potential for spreading infection from areas where the infection is prevalent to other areas. In addition, the risk for the transfer team may be quite high without strict adherence for wearing personal protective equipment according to infection control recommendations. What has been observed in cardiac catheterization units is that implementing appropriate personal protective equipment results in delays of patients reaching the unit in a timely manner. Under these circumstances many have advocated using thrombolytic therapy unless there are contraindications [6,7,8,9].

Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Description |
|--------------|-------------|
| AMI          | acute myocardial infarction |
| ACS          | acute coronary syndrome |
| ACLS         | advanced cardiac life support |
| D2BT         | door to balloon time |
| D2NT         | door to needle time |
| ECG          | electrocardiogram |
| ER           | emergency room |
| FMC          | first medical contact |
| GRADE        | Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation |
| PPCI         | primary percutaneous coronary intervention |
| STEMI        | ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction |
Performing polymerase chain reaction testing for the SARS-CoV-2 virus before transfer of patients from one hospital to another is not practical for PPCI because of the time it takes to take the swab and to perform and obtain the result. However, testing, where available, is advisable for patients who are treated by thrombolytic therapy in order to give patients with negative polymerase chain reaction result the benefit of transferring them within the first 24 hours for subsequent PCI.

3. Evidence on the safety of transfer

Transferring patients up to 120 km from a non PCI hospital to a PCI center was found to be safe, resulting in lower 30-day mortality in comparison to thrombolytic therapy particularly if symptom onset was more than 3 hours [15]. In the Trial of Routine Angioplasty and Stenting after Fibrinolysis to Enhance Reperfusion in Acute Myocardial Infarction (TRANSFER-AMI) pilot study, no complications occurred during transfer to PCI centers [16].

One very high risk subgroup is patients with STEMI and cardiogenic shock. This group accounts for significant in-hospital and post discharge mortality in STEMI patients. Every effort should be made to improve the survival of these patients, as the number needed to treat to save one additional life is low. [17].

The German prospective multicenter feedback intervention and treatment times in STEMI trial (FITT-STEMI) analyzed raw time data to calculate the interval between FMC and balloon inflation. [17] Categorical outcomes were compared between four groups. 12,675 STEMI patients received emergency medical services transportation (EMS) and treated with primary PCI, whereas 10,776 patients (85%) had no pre-hospital resuscitation and reached a PCI hospital in stable condition. A total of 1,200 patients (9.5%) had out of hospital cardiac arrest, 369 patients had stable condition and 831 patients had cardiogenic shock at the PCI hospital. 699 patients had cardiogenic shock without out of hospital cardiac arrest. This latter group derived maximum benefit from early primary PCI with a number needed to treat of 5 to save one life. A particular high risk of death was observed in patients with contact to balloon time from 150 to 180 min, with 20% mortality after PCI. For contact to balloon time ranging from 60 to 180 min, they found a nearly linear relationship between treatment time and mortality in all the groups. Every 10-min treatment delay resulted in 3.31 additional deaths in 100 PCI treated cardiogenic shock patients with no out of hospital cardiac arrest. The most recent European Society of Cardiology Guidelines recommend the maximum expected delay between FMC and primary PCI should be considered as the essential time target for clinical decision and the quality metric for care delivery, and not just the in-hospital D2BT. [2] The D2BT has been extensively used as a quality measure of in-hospital processes. The FITT-STEMI trial indicated strong impact of contact to balloon time on in-hospital mortality in patients with cardiogenic shock and or out of hospital cardiac arrest and shows that 90 minutes should be the target [17].

A strategy of bundled care including direct transfer of STEMI patients for PPCI was implemented in Makkah during the Hajj season and was found to significantly reduce cardiovascular disease specific mortality from 53.2% in 2008 to 16.7% in 2011. Pharmaco-invasive strategy was the primary re-perfusion approach when primary PCI could not be offered in a timely manner [18].

4. Transfer back to local hospital

In the Transfer AMI pilot study, patients were returned back to their community hospital without any clinical event of note [16]. In a study in Oslo on patients with ACS, a fast-track approach was compared to ordinary care and found that up to 95% could be returned safely the same day after PCI to their referring hospital [19].

In a study at Prince Sultan Cardiac Center Qassim, stable patients without complications during PCI procedure were returned to the referring hospital immediately following the PPCI. The transfer back was with the agreement of the local hospitals. The local hospital could provide adequate care for patients with acute myocardial infarction following revascularization. In a series of 124 patients returned following primary PCI, one patient had AV block and one patient developed a right arm hematoma and was managed conservatively. No other adverse events were encountered during the ambulance journey or up to 30 days [20].

5. SACIS recommendations

5.1. General recommendations

Programs to improve public health awareness regarding when to seek medical advice (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [5,21].

Improve healthcare workers awareness of importance of timely evaluation, therapy and urgent transportation for patients with symptoms of acute coronary syndrome (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [22].
Establish formal protocols and communication networks between all clinics and hospitals with no PCI capability with primary PCI facilities. A champion is required for each facility participating in a primary PCI network (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4,23].

The impact of early primary PCI is greatest in patients with cardiogenic shock with or without out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [17].

Hospitals with PCI capability should facilitate accepting transferred patients with STEMI from non-PCI capable hospitals with direct transfer to the cardiac catheterization unit following a non-refusal principle (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [14].

Referring hospitals with cardiology service should take back patients after primary PCI when required upon interventional cardiologist recommendation (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [19,20].

5.2. Recommendations for hospitals without PCI facilities (Fig. 1)

The diagnosis of STEMI is clinically confirmed with an ECG within 10 minutes from presentation (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

The decision for transfer should be made by the first medical contact (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [13,14].

Patients should be loaded with 162-325 mg Aspirin, P2Y12 inhibitors (preferably Ticagrelor 180 mg or clopidogrel 600 mg when the former is not available or contraindicated and 60 units per kilogram (maximum dose 4000 units) intravenous unfractionated heparin in the referring hospital or clinic within the first 10 to 15 minutes from presentation (Strong Recommendation, High-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

During Pandemic situation thrombolytic therapy should be administered in the emergency room within the first 30 minutes of arrival if no contraindications exist. PPCI may be considered if thrombolytic therapy is contraindicated, not available or patient presents beyond the 12-hour window. Rescue PCI may be considered for those that do not show evidence of re-perfusion. The greatest concern associated with transfer is infection to healthcare workers and other patients. Because of this, transfer of patients needs to be limited. If transfer is deemed necessary then adequate protection of staff must be ensured. Transfer should be considered for patients with cardiogenic shock without out of hospital cardiac arrest and to those with contraindications for thrombolytic therapy. If polymerase chain reaction testing is available then routine testing and obtaining

Fig. 1. Arrival to Non-PCI Facility.
the result urgently is appropriate for patients who are
given thrombolytic therapy (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [6,7,8,9].

Patients must be continuously monitored once
STEMI is confirmed with a functioning defibrillator attached (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

All staff attending the patient must be ACLS certified (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

The process of transfer between facilities must
include ACLS certified staff (physicians, paramedics or nurses) and a monitor defibrillator (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

The door-in-door-out time must not exceed
30 minutes (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [13,14,15,16,17].

Transfer of patients should be directly to the
catheterization lab in the receiving hospital bypassing the emergency room (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [14].

The benchmark from first medical contact to device
time should not exceed 120 minutes (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [13,17].

The benchmark from arrival to the primary
PCI facility to device time should not exceed 60 minutes (Strong Recommendation, Moderate-Quality Evidence) [24].

If patients cannot be transferred within first
medical contact to device time of less than 120 minutes, these patients must receive thrombolytic therapy (if no contraindications) at the non-PCI facility with door-to-needle time of less than 30 minutes (Strong Recommendation, Moderate -Quality Evidence) [2,3,4,13].

5.3. Recommendations for hospitals with PCI
facilities (Fig. 2)

The diagnosis of STEMI is clinically confirmed
with an ECG within 10 minutes from presentation (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

The cardiac catheterization unit should be activated by the ER physician (Strong Recommendation, Low-Quality Evidence) [2,3,4,22].

Patients should be loaded with 162-325 mg
Aspirin, P2Y12 inhibitors (preferably Ticagrelor 180 mg or clopidogrel 600 mg when the former is not available or contraindicated and 60 units per kilogram bodyweight (maximum dose 4000units)
intravenous un-fractionated heparin within the first
10 to 15 minutes from presentation (Strong Recommendation, High Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

Patients must be continuously monitored once
STEMI is confirmed with a functioning defibrillator.
attached (Strong Recommendation, Low Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

All staff attending the patient must be ACLS certified (Strong Recommendation, Low Quality Evidence) [2,3,4].

Transfer to the catheterization lab by an ACLS certified physician and nurses and a monitor defibrillator and with adequate personal protective equipment protection for the transfer team during pandemic times. The transfer as well as the transfer route must comply with relevant local infection control recommendations to ensure safety of patients as well as all healthcare workers (Strong Recommendation, Moderate Quality Evidence) [2,3,4,6,7,8,9].

The benchmark from first medical contact to device time should not exceed 90 minutes, unless symptom onset was less than two hours. In this case, first medical contact to device time should not exceed 60 minutes (Strong Recommendation, Moderate Quality Evidence) [2,3,4,24].

Author contribution
Conception and design of Study; Literature review; Acquisition of data; Drafting of manuscript; Revising and editing the manuscript critically for important intellectual contents; Data preparation and presentation: Shukri Al Saif, Owayed Alshammeri, Abdullah Alkhushail, Ramzi Almohammadi, Mohamed Kurdi. Supervision of the research: Shukri Al Saif. Research coordination and management: Shukri Al Saif. Funding for the research: Mohamed Kurdi.

Funding
The project was fully funded for expenditure by the Saudi Arabia Cardiac Intervention Society.

Conflict of interest
None of the authors has any conflict of interest to declare in relation to this manuscript.

References
1 Keeley EC, Boura JA, Grines CL. Primary angioplasty versus intravenous thrombolytic therapy for acute myocardial infarction: a quantitative review of 23 randomised trials. Lancet 2003 Jan 4;361(9351):13–20. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(03)12113-7.
2 Ibanez B, James S, Agewall S, Antunes MJ, Bucciarelli-Ducci C, Bueno H, et al., ESC Scientific Document Group. 2017 ESC Guidelines for the management of acute myocardial infarction in patients presenting with ST-segment elevation: The Task Force for the management of acute myocardial infarction in patients presenting with ST-segment elevation of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). Eur Heart J 2018 Jan 7;39(2):119–77. https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehx393.
3 O’Gara PT, Kushner FG, Ascheim DD, Casey Jr DE, Chiang MK, de Lemos JA, et al. American College of Cardiology Foundation; American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines; American College of Emergency Physicians; Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions. 2013 ACCF/AHA guideline for the management of ST-elevation myocardial infarction: executive summary: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines: developed in collaboration with the American College of Emergency Physicians and Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions Circulation 2013;127:529–55. https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0b013e3182742x84.
4 Wong GC, Welsford M, Ainsworth C, Abuzeid W, Fordyce CB, Greene J, et al. 2019 Canadian Cardiovascular Society/Canadian Association of Interventional Cardiology Guidelines on the Acute Management of ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction: Focused Update on Regionalization and Reperfusion. Can J Cardiol 2019;35:1016e52. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cjca.2018.11.031.
5 Alhabib KF, Kinsara AJ, Alghamdi S, Al-Murayeh M, Hussein GA, AlSaif S, et al. The first survey of the Saudi Acute Myocardial Infarction Registry Program: Main results and long-term outcomes (STARS-1 Program). PLoS ONE 2019;14(5):e0216551. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0216551.
6 Kurdi M, AlSaif S, AlMutairi F, et al. SACIS Guidance for ACS Management for the COVID-19 Pandemic issued 22nd March 2020, 2020. https://saudi-heart.com/2020/03/29/sacis-guidance.
7 Welt FGP, Shah P, Aronow HD, et al., from the American College of Cardiology’s (ACC) Interventional Council and the Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Intervention (SCAI), Catherization Laboratory Considerations During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. PII: S0735–1097(20). 2020. p. 3456e5676. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2020.03.021.
8 Zeng Jie, Huang Jianxin, Pan Lingal. How to balance acute myocardial infarction and COVID-19: the protocols from Sichuan Provincial People’s Hospital. Intensive Care Med 2020. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-020-05993-9.
9 Wood D, Sathanathan Gin K, et al. Precautions and procedures for coronary and structural cardiac interventions during the COVID 19 Pandemic: Guidance from the Canadian Association of Interventional Cardiology. Can J Cardiol 2020 May;36(5):780–3. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cjca.2020.03.027.
10 GRADE Working Group. Grading quality of evidence and strength of recommendations. BMJ 19 JUNE 2004;328. https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.328.7454.1490.
11 Alonso-Coello P, Schünenemann HJ, Moberg J, Brignardello-Petersen R, Akl EA, Davoli M, et al. GRADE Evidence to Decision (EtD) frameworks: a systematic and transparent approach to making well informed healthcare choices. 1: Introduction. BMJ 2016;353:i2016. https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i2016.
12 Alonso-Coello P, Oxman AD, Moberg J, Brignardello-Petersen R, Akl EA, Davoli M, et al. GRADE Evidence to Decision (EtD) frameworks: a systematic and transparent approach to making well informed healthcare choices. 2: Clinical practice guidelines. BMJ 2016;353:i2089. https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.i2089.
13 Carrillo X, Fernandez-Nofreiras E, Rodriguez-Leor O, Oliveras T, Serra J, Mauri J, et al., Codi IAM Investigators. Early ST elevation myocardial infarction in non-capable percutaneous coronary intervention centers: in situ fibrinolysis vs. percutaneous coronary intervention transfer. Eur Heart J 2016 Apr 1;37(13):1034–40. eurheartj/ehv640” title=“https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehv640”>https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehv640</a>.
14 Anderson LL, French WJ, Peng SA, Vora AN, Henry TD, Roe MT, et al. Direct Transfer From the Referring Hospitals to the Catheterization Laboratory to Minimize Reperfusion Delay for Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: Insights
From the National Cardiovascular Data Registry. Circ Cardiovasc Interv 2015 Sep;8(9):e002477. https://doi: 10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.114.002477.

15 Widimský P, Budesínský T, Voráč D, Groch L, Zelízko M, Aschermann M, et al., PRAGUE Study Group Investigators. Long distance transport for primary angioplasty vs immediate thrombolysis in acute myocardial infarction. Final results of the randomized national multicentre trial–PRAGUE-2. Eur Heart J 2003 Jan;24(1):94–104. https://doi: 10.1016/s0195-668x(02)00465-2.

16 Cantor WJ, Burnstein J, Choi R, Heffernan M, Dzavik V, Lazzam C, et al. Transfer for urgent percutaneous coronary intervention early after thrombolysis for ST-elevation myocardial infarction: the TRANSFER-AMI pilot feasibility study. Can J Cardiol 2006 Nov;22(13):1121–6. https://doi: 10.1016/s0828-282x(06)70948-5.

17 Scholz KH, Maier SKG, Maier LS, Lengenfelder B, Jacobshagen C, Jung J, et al. Impact of treatment delay on mortality in ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients presenting with and without hemodynamic instability: results from the German prospective, multicentre FITT-STEMI trial. Eur Heart J 2018 Apr 1;39(13):1065–74. eurheartj/ehy004" title="https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehy004" >https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehy004.

18 Al Faraidy KA, Thalib L, Al Shammeri O, Bokhari F, Harsi A, Alfaleh H, et al. A Tailored, Bundle Care Intervention Strategy to Reduce Cardiac Mortality During the Hajj: A Population-Based, Before and After Study. Angiology 2019 Jul;70(6): 547–53. https://doi.org/10.1177/000331971882630.

19 Andersen JG, Klaw NE, Johansen O. Safe and feasible immediate retransfer of patients to the referring hospital after acute coronary angiography and percutaneous coronary angioplasty for patients with acute coronary syndrome. Eur Heart J Acute Cardiovasc Care 2013 Sep;2(3):256–61. https://doi: 10.1177/204887613463587.

20 Gul R. Safety and feasibility of returning patients immediately to their originating hospitals after primary percutaneous coronary intervention. J Saudi Heart Assoc 2018;30(4):366. https://doi:10.1016/j.jsha.2018.05.027.

21 Balbaa A, ElGuindy A, Natarajan M, Schwalm JD. Factors Affecting Symptom Onset to First-Medical-Contact in Egyptian STEMI Patients. Glob Heart 2018 Dec;13(4):363–4. https://doi:10.1016/j.gheart.2018.06.002.

22 Sharma D, Hobson A, Griffiths H, Cannaughton M, Strike P, Dana A. Increasing awareness in paramedics ambulance personnel reduces door-to-balloon times. 2014. heartjnl-2014-306118.33. heartjnl-2014-306118.33" title="https://doi.org/10.1136/heartjnl-2014-306118.33">https://doi.org/10.1136/heartjnl-2014-306118.33.

23 Nivaldo Menezes Filgueiras Filho NMF, Filho GSF, Solla DJF, Argólo FC, Guimarães PO, et al. Implementation of a Regional Network for ST-Segment—Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Care and 30-Day Mortality in a Low- to Middle-Income City in Brazil: Findings From Salvador’s STEMI Registry (RESISST), number 14 J Am Heart Assoc 2018;7. https://doi.org/10.1161/JAHA.118.008624.

24 Chen FC, Lin YR, Kung CT, Cheng CI, Li CJ. The Association between Door-to-Balloon Time of Less Than 60 Minutes and Prognosis of Patients Developing ST Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction and Undergoing Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention. Article ID 1910934 BioMed Res Int 2017:6. https://doi.org/10.1155/2017/1910934.