Appendix 2

This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.

Appendix 2. Urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patient’s pathways for detection and management of ACS

Issues along the ACS pathway that negatively impact on outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

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<tr>
<td>Lack of knowledge of the warning signs of heart attack and how to access emergency services.</td>
<td>Delayed risk stratification with complex retrieval pathways.</td>
<td>Lack of essential infrastructure and standardised protocols.</td>
<td>Disparities in hospital care including delays in treatment, including, documented lower intervention and revascularisation rates.</td>
<td>Inadequate follow-up care, reduced access to cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention.</td>
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Contributing to negative outcomes across the pathway are psychosocial issues of: fear / institutional racism / cultural misunderstandings / waiting times / transport / health literacy / financial constraints

1. ACS Symptoms
   - All patients
   - Chest Pain
   - Call 000
   - Urban and Regional patients

2. Evacuation
   - Urban & regional patients
   - Ambulance / Air retrieval
   - Initial risk stratification
   - Pre Hospital Fibrinolysis if >90 mins to hospital

3. Tertiary - PCI Hospital
   - Patients from urban, regional or remote areas.
   - Invasive and non invasive investigations.
   - Risk Stratification: STEMI / NSTEACS

4. Risk Stratification
   - Diagnostic angiogram
   - NSTEACS patients

5. Intervention
   - Primary or elective PCI/CABG.
   - Both STEMI and NSTEACS patients

6. No Intervention
   - Standard medical therapy as per guidelines.
   - However, lower intervention rates due to complex issues.

7. Community
   - All Patients
   - Patient care plan.
   - Patient and family education: Access to education programs.
   - Adequacy of medical follow up.

More direct and less convoluted patients’ pathways of urban and some regional patients.

000 Emergency call number in Australia. ACS: Acute Coronary Syndrome; NHFA: National Heart Foundation of Australia; CSANZ: Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand; STEMI: ST-elevation myocardial infarction; NSTEACS: non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction; PCI: percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG: coronary artery bypass graft.