

## SASCI/STEMI SA

### International arena

STENT-SAVE A LIFE! Initiative



**Attendees from member countries of the 2019 Stent - Save a Life! Forum Meeting, EuroPCR Conference, Paris, France**

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Stent-Save a Life! global initiative, whose aim is to reduce morbidity and mortality from acute coronary syndrome on a global level. Japan, Taiwan and Uruguay have now joined the initiative and the number of participating countries has risen to a total of 32.

The project's objective is to develop a STEMI network guide (Blueprint) aimed at helping countries set up their own efficient networks. This is based on the Hub and Spoke model that has successfully implemented in India. Representatives for 4 countries (Argentina, China, Portugal and South Africa) compiled the Blueprint. Rhena Delpoort represented South Africa. A round table discussion was held at the Forum Meeting during which participants brainstormed on communication processes and indicators of effective deployment of the Blueprint in regions. This guideline will shortly be published and it will be employed not only in South Africa but across the continent to strengthen national initiatives to optimise STEMI care across regions.

Adriaan Snyders chaired a session on: Regional synopsis – Where are we and what are the next steps? and Rhena Delpoort served as panel member for the STEMI Network Blueprint project.

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**Stent-Save a Life! 2019 Project Managers' Meeting, EuroPCR Conference, Paris, France**



**STEMI SA Networking among faculty at 2019 CSI Council and STEMI India conference, Kolkata, India.**

### **STENT – SAVE A LIFE! Project managers meeting**

Rhena Delpont participated as a member of the working group as national Project Manager for SASCI/ STEMI SA, and led the discussion on the complexities of data collection.

Valuable insights were obtained relating to the challenges of and solutions for STEMI networks for patient referrals that the new member countries experience.

### **STEMI India collaboration**

Meetings and informal discussions were held with members from African countries as well as industry partners, during the Conference. The Pan-African meeting with the steering committee and international experts on systems of care for STEMI is depicted on the left, and on the right is a photo of the Faculty with whom STEMI SA had fruitful discussions. Thomas Alexander, our host, stands in the centre of the group. He is co-investigator for the STEMI SA research project and has provided valuable input and support thus far. This is acknowledged and fully appreciated.

### **Education project**

#### **Standardisation of care in acute management of ACS**

The Guardian initiative (Guard your Heart), which is similar to the Angles Stroke Initiative run by Boehringer Ingelheim (BI), will be launched shortly. It is a training programme that focusses on the management of ACS at first medical contact and results from joint collaboration between Emergency Physicians for Wits, STEMI SA, the Resuscitation Council, representatives from hospital groups, and EMS providers. The development was supported by BI and Medtronic.

We plan quarterly meetings in metropolitan cities, but will also make the material available to any hub hospital cardiologist who is prepared to arrange training sessions on a smaller scale either in their hospital or at their referral centres – provided that the user assists us in improving the material. We are particularly looking for case studies focusing on the time lines and correct and incorrect management.

### **STEMI data collection**

The upgraded STEMI SA data platform will be available shortly and Dave Kettles, with the assistance of the SASCI office, will drive the data collection process among cardiologists in collaboration with STEMI India. Rhena Delpont will continue collaborating with hospital groups regarding data collection and is primarily responsible for the data analysis.

### Mapping of STEMI networks in regions

We are making progress with the process of defining a national network for referrals of STEMI patients in South Africa. Dr Eamon Mare will contact each Cath Lab Hospital to:

- Determine who will act as contact person for the hospital at each Cath Lab hospital;
- Request information to more clearly define the national network which should/could be available by determining the:
  - Number of Cath Labs in each PCI-capable hospital;
  - Number of Cardiologists in the centre;
  - Number of Catheterisations performed per period/year;
  - Number of STEMI per period/year;
  - 10 Main Referral Centres and classifying whether they are a hospital/clinic/practice, emergency room or other;
  - If possible, number of STEMI patients transferred from each referral centre.

Should the requested information not be available, we will recommend/request that each Cath Lab centre reply as such and then collect the data required for a period of 3 months and then submit to Dr Eamon Mare.

### STEMI SA Non-Profit Company (NPC)

The present Board includes Adriaan Snyders, Rhena Delpont and Len Steingo. The next Board will be elected at the beginning of 2021 by members actively involved in the programme. The STEMI SA NPC has opened an account and the account is managed by an independent accountant who will give 2-monthly feedback reports to all contributors. All financial support will be used for the specified purpose it was donated for; with a zero commission or handling fee.

#### industry members are invited to:

- Register as a SUPPORTER of the STEMI SA Project with a yearly contribution of R15 000. This will be used for admin and local meeting expenses and a financial statement will be made available.
- Contribute toward running costs (R50 000 p.a.) for the STEMI SA Software for data collection.
- Adopt or participate in a metropolitan half day training session (100 attendees) or a referral site (20 - 50 attendees) evening training session.
- Support 1 or 2 STEMI SA representatives to attend SSL and other related meetings at STEMI India; EuroPCR; ESC; AfricaPCR; SAHeart®; Project Managers Meeting; STEMI Africa and other Africa Meetings; and Local steering committee meetings.
- Contribute towards a SSL Africa Round Table Dinner Discussion during a SA Heart®/AfricaPCR Meeting for not more than 20 attendees.
- Employ a research assistant for 20 hours per month for 1 year that will greatly enhance our data collection efforts.
- Consider playing a major role in the STEMI SA Forum 2020 Meeting.
- Discuss any options with Adriaan Snyders.

### Adriaan Snyders, Champion/Chairman, STEMI SA and SSL Africa

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