



# Systems of Care

AN ACC CLINICAL TOOLKIT

## ***SAMPLE STAKEHOLDER INVITATIONS TO THE INITIAL COALITION FORMATION MEETING***

This invitation would ideally come from a very senior public official, such as a mayor, chair of the local county commission, city manager, or county administrator – or a local equivalent thereof (e.g., county judges in Texas) – on their official letterhead. In the absence of that scenario, the letter can come from the ACC and/or NACCHO. If there is another scenario that works locally, these options should not be considered restrictive. For example, a local EMS council, hospital association, public health department, may also have a neutral standing along with enough political influence or gravitas to compel attendance by hospital CEOs and other senior officials. Please modify the invitation language below to best suit local needs and circumstances.

On behalf of the American College of Cardiology and the National Association of County and City Health Officials, you are cordially invited to attend a meeting to consider ways to formally organize efforts to improve care in our region / community for time sensitive conditions (TSC) such as heart attack, trauma, cardiac arrest, and stroke. For this unique gathering, we are inviting your colleagues in positions at a senior executive and medical director level from units of local government, hospitals, EMS, 9-1-1 communications, public health departments, rehabilitation facilities, and payers.

Heart attack, severe trauma, sudden cardiac arrest, and stroke – these are just a few of the time-sensitive conditions (TSC) where truly emergent care needs to be both effective and efficient in order to give patients in your community the best chances of survival and recovery. Clinically proficient treatment without timely delivery is not enough. Timely delivery without proficient care is inadequate. Proficient and timely care at an unaffordably high cost is not economically sustainable. Your community's systems of care for each TSC needs to be effective, timely and efficient.

For each of these TSC systems of care, there's a staggering array of complex processes and interactions within and between multiple logistical, electronic and human systems. When they do not fit together with precision; when there's friction between pieces; when the pieces do not move in coordination – these systems of care fall short of their potential. This is only possible when the stakeholders collaborate across institutional and political borders. Having separate groups working at a regional/ community level to address TSC for trauma, heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke, sepsis and other conditions is not an efficient use of limited resources due to their many commonalities.



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The American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) are working together with champions in your region / community to establish and sustain TSC coalitions to address the challenges in delivering effective and efficient care. Our goal is to improve the regional / community TSC system of care into a well-oiled machine that consistently delivers high levels of quality care at a lower total cost.

This initial meeting of stakeholders will be held on (date) at (time) at (location). (Breakfast, lunch dinner, hors d'oeuvres, refreshments) will be served. Please RSVP by (date) to (name, title, institution, email address, phone #).

For more information about this initiative, please visit [acc.org/TSC/Coalitions](http://acc.org/TSC/Coalitions).

Sincerely,

[Local Champion Name, Institutional Title, Institution, Signature]

[Local Champion ACC Rep Name, ACC Title, Institutional Title, Institution, Signature]

[NACCHO Rep Name, ACC Title, Institutional Title, Institution, Signature]