

# Surviving MI

AN ACC QUALITY INITIATIVE

## Strategies for Broad Engagement of Pharmacists in the Care of AMI Patients

Pharmacist involvement in the care of hospitalized patients is associated with reduction in 30-day mortality rates and improved prescribing of evidence-based therapies in patients with AMI. Pharmacist services provide both direct cost savings and cost avoidance through prevention of adverse drug events and reduction in lengths of stay.

### EVIDENCE-BASE FOR PHARMACIST ENGAGEMENT IN AMI CARE

Having a pharmacist engaged in AMI care:

- Is associated with lower 30-day mortality rates when the pharmacist rounds on all AMI patients.
- Can improve adherence to medication prescribing guidelines for patients with AMI through audit, feedback, and medication therapy management protocols.
- Can reduce adverse medication events.
- Can lead to direct and indirect cost savings and estimated cost avoidance through prevention of adverse drug events and reduction in length of stay.

### WAYS IN WHICH PHARMACISTS CAN BE ENGAGED IN AMI CARE

- Review of medications ordered in emergency department and during admission
- Participation in interdisciplinary rounds
  - Identification of medication omissions and opportunities for increased use of evidence based therapies
  - Increased identification of adverse medication events and preventative strategies
  - Optimization of prescribed therapies for added efficacy and safety
  - Availability for prompt responses to medication-related inquiries
- Implementation of medication therapy protocols (e.g., anticoagulation management, pharmacodynamic/kinetic dosing, etc.)
- Participation in cardiopulmonary resuscitation teams
- Obtaining patient medication histories and medication education
- Conducting medication reconciliation
- Conducting smoking cessation counseling and education on pharmacologic interventions
- Conducting patient education on exercise and nutrition
- Follow-up medication regimen assessments and adherence counseling through participation in cardiac rehabilitation programs
- Participation in medication related discharge planning/transition of care coordination

### References

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