

ACRE II Project Newsletter



Improved Assessment of Chest pain Trial

Accelerated Chest pain Risk Evaluation

September 2017

ACRE I & ImpACT Publications

It's taken a while but after being accepted early this year, the ACRE I outcomes and ImpACT papers have finally been published in the September 4th edition of the Medical Journal of Australia (MJA), seemingly to correlate with the recent Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ) 65th Annual Scientific Meeting.

ACRE I

The ACRE I outcomes reported in 16 Queensland Hospitals highlights a significant impact on health services with reduced median ED and total hospital length of stay for patients and an estimated \$13.5 million of financial capacity released. Not all 19 ACRE sites were included in this paper however, and the overall benefits of the strategy are even greater than reported in this publication. These achievements would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of staff from each of our ACRE I sites. Your commitment to quality improvement has, and continues to make an important difference to patient care.

Read all about the ACRE I outcomes here:

<https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2017/207/5/implementing-change-evaluating-accelerated-chest-pain-risk-evaluation-acre>

ImpACT

As you may be aware, the ACRE Project has moved into a new stage – ACRE II. This involves rolling out a new protocol – ImpACT (Improved Assessment of Chest pain Trial). ImpACT is an interventional trial that was conducted at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital from February 2011 to March 2014. It recruited 1366 patients who presented to the Emergency Department (ED) with symptoms of suspected Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS), and stratified them as Low, Intermediate or High risk for ACS.

As opposed to ADAPT - on which ACRE I was based, **both the low and intermediate risk groups assessed using ImpACT undergo accelerated assessment** in the ED. The study demonstrates the safety of this approach with no Major Adverse Coronary Events (MACE) at 30 days reported in the low risk group. The ImpACT protocol safely accelerated the care of up to three-quarters of patients presenting to ED with symptoms of suspected ACS, reducing median hospital length of stay of low and intermediate risk patients to **5.1 hours and 7.7 hours respectively**.

Here is the link to the ImpACT Article:

<https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2017/207/5/improved-assessment-chest-pain-trial-impact-assessing-patients-possible-acute>

Podcasts

Want to find out more about the use of Accelerated Diagnostic Protocols for Chest Pain?

Listen to Will Parsonage speak with the MJA



<https://www.mja.com.au/podcast/207/5/mja-podcasts-2017-episode-51-accelerated-chest-pain-protocols-pt-1-prof-will>

Want to know more about the ImpACT study?

Listen to Louise Cullen's MJA podcast.



<https://www.mja.com.au/podcast/207/5/mja-podcasts-2017-episode-52-accelerated-chest-pain-protocols-pt-2-prof-louise-cullen>

Awards

Louise Cullen was recently awarded runner-up for the **2017 Emergency Medicine Foundation People's Choice Award**. Congratulations Louise!!!



<http://emergencyfoundation.org.au/research-symposium/2017-peoples-choice/>

Conferences

Louise McCormack represented the ACRE project at the **Health Roundtable Innovation Workshop** and the **Cardiology Systems of Care Meeting** in Brisbane.



Louise McCormack

Upcoming Events

The ACRE team has been selected to present three submissions at the **10th Health Services Research Association of Australia & New Zealand (HSRAANZ) Health Services & Policy Research Conference** from the 1st to the 3rd November on the Gold Coast.

State Wide Rollout

Cairns leading the way

The state-wide implementation of ImpACT started in November 2016, with the commencement of the protocol at Cairns Hospital. As a FirstNet digital hospital site, the ACRE team have faced challenges obtaining data though we hope to be able to provide reports soon.

Ipswich on Trend

ImpACT was introduced to Ipswich Hospital in **June 2017**. Initial data from Ipswich suggests that the percentages of patients being assessed according to the ImpACT pathway are consistent with the data from the RBWH demonstrating the feasibility of the pathway across other health facilities.

Making an ImpACT on the Sunshine Coast

The ImpACT protocol has most recently been implemented at the newly opened Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Nambour General Hospital from **July 2017**. It is early days, though the initial data is also reflecting similar patient ratios across the risk stratification groups.

More to come....

The ACRE team is currently in phase II of the ImpACT rollout and are speaking with stakeholders from other hospitals who are interested in implementing. The real test of success will be to see if the dramatic reductions in hospital length of stay demonstrated in the research can be replicated.

Research Update

As you may be aware, the ACRE project, in partnership with the Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation (AusHSI) and Cairns Hospital, are planning research to investigate risk stratification for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients presenting with suspected Acute Coronary Syndrome. From the original research, we have little understanding about the applicability of the ImpACT protocol for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients. The study has received ethical and site specific approvals and recruitment of research staff is underway.

