CPACS - Clinical Pathways for Acute Coronary Syndromes in China - January 2018

Facts:
• Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) is the leading cause of death and premature death in China.
• Over 700,000 Chinese die of acute coronary events each year.
• China is predicted to experience a 69% increase in ACS (nearly 8 million additional events) in the coming decades.
• Over 2/3 of the burden of death and disability from ACS will occur in adults aged less than 65 years.

Background:
• ACS is any condition brought on by sudden reduced blood flow to the heart, such as cardiac arrest. Cardiology care in China has significant gaps.
• CPACS is a study done in collaboration with the Chinese Cardiac Society, that oversees delivery of care and is responsible for the maintenance of professional standards and cardiology practice.

Aims:
• CPACS aims to find ways to close the gaps in cardiology care. It is the largest study to focus on implementation of evidence-based care for patients experiencing acute coronary syndromes (ACS) in China.

Methods:
• The phase 1 study of 3000 individuals in 51 hospitals showed large evidence-practice gaps in the hospital management of ACS.
• Phase 2 had more than 15,000 patients at 75 hospitals, looking at ways to address these gaps.
• Phase 3 has just finished in 101 remote county hospitals evaluating the implementation of pathways in the context of system changes, and with a greater emphasis on task shifting, electronic decision support and telehealth. The main results will be published soon.

Impact:
• Initial findings showed improvements from the treatments, but without simultaneous changes to the health system, the effects would likely be limited.
• CPACS has been adopted by the Chinese Ministry of Health as its official project. Outcomes of phases 1 and 2 have been crucial to informing the Chinese Government’s ongoing process of mandating the use of clinical pathways for a range of conditions treated in hospitals.
• The Chinese Cardiac Society has used the CPACS results to promote adherence to national guideline recommendations and improve ACS management in hospitals.

Contact:
To find out more about Clinical Pathways for Acute Coronary Syndromes (CPACS) in China study and its principal investigators (Prof. Yangfeng Wu, Prof. Runlin Gao & Prof. Anushka Patel) or The George Institute for Global Health, please contact Terry Lu +86 10 8280 0577 or email tlu@georgeinstitute.org.cn

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