

The image features a dark grey background with a stylized graphic on the left side. The graphic consists of a white, cylindrical shape resembling a valve or a heart's base, with a red, flame-like shape above it. The red shape has several curved, pointed edges, suggesting movement or a specific anatomical feature. The overall design is clean and modern, with a focus on red and white colors against the dark grey background.

**Target: Aortic Stenosis**

# WELCOME

2

**GARY W. MYERS, MS**  
NATIONAL SR. PROGRAM MANAGER  
QUALITY, OUTCOMES, RESEARCH AND ANALYTICS (QORA)  
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## Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, FAHA

Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc is Chief of Cardiology at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, and Associate Director of the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He holds the Magerstadt Endowed Professor of Medicine Chair and Professor of Medical Social Sciences. He concurrently serves as Vice-Dean of Diversity & Inclusion, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine. He is an Honors graduate of Southern University (Baton Rouge, LA), Alpha Phi Omega honors graduate of Tulane University School of Medicine (MD) and Beta Sigma honors graduate of the University of Texas-Dallas School of Business and Management (MSc).

His research interests are in heart failure, clinical guideline generation, outcomes sciences and health care disparities. He is extensively published with well over 500 peer reviewed publications and has been named among the top 1% of cited scientific authors. He is Deputy Editor, JAMA Cardiology; Senior Section Editor (Heart Failure), Journal of the American College of Cardiology; and serves on the editorial boards for Circulation, Circulation Heart Failure, the American Heart Journal and JACC Heart Failure.

He has served the NIH, NHLBI, PCORI, FDA and AHRQ in a variety of service and leadership roles.

He is a Master of the American College of Cardiology, a Fellow of the American Heart Association, a Master of the American College of Physicians and a Fellow of the Heart Failure Society of America. He is the chair of the ACC/AHA Heart Failure Guideline Writing Committee, Chair of the ACC Heart Failure Clinical Pathway Writing Committee and Co-Chair of the Aortic Stenosis Science Advisory Group. He is a former President of the American Heart Association (2009-2010), as well as past recipient of the AHA National Physician of the Year and the Gold Heart award. He is the recipient of innumerable best doctor and best teacher awards and has held a number of Visiting Professorships at leading academic medical centers.

In 2016, he was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, one of the topmost tiers of recognition for physicians. In 2018, he was named a member of the Minority Subcommittee on Health in the Department of Health and Human Services.





## J. Matthew Brennan, MD, MPH

Dr. Brennan is an Interventional Cardiologist at Duke University School of Medicine-- specializing in the treatment of complex coronary artery disease and the clinical management of valvular heart disease. His research interests include shared decision making-- particularly as it relates to coronary and valvular heart disease-- and the use of statistical techniques and study design to provide non-biased estimates in comparative effectiveness analyses using large non-randomized, observational databases. Dr. Brennan has served as the Director of the Duke analysis center for the Transcatheter Valve Therapies (TVT) Registry and co-director of the analysis center for the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) Database. He was the PI of a U01 grant from the US FDA for the use of Medicare data for comparative effectiveness research and a PCORI award for comparison of TAVR vs SAVR using STS and TVT Registry data. Dr. Brennan's research has most recently focused on defining the scale of undertreatment of Aortic Valve Stenosis in the United States and bringing awareness to the issue.



# GAPS IN THE JOURNEY OF THE AORTIC STENOSIS PATIENT IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS

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# DISCLOSURES

## CONSULTING & STUDY DESIGN FOR:

- EDWARDS Lifesciences
- AtriCure
- CardioCare

Today's slides were created in collaboration with the ELS team and Boston Consulting Group and reviewed by the AHA Scientific Oversight Committee.

## OVERVIEW

- 1 Case for change in severe aortic stenosis
- 2 Barriers to appropriate management in the patient pathway
- 3 Looking forward to improving care

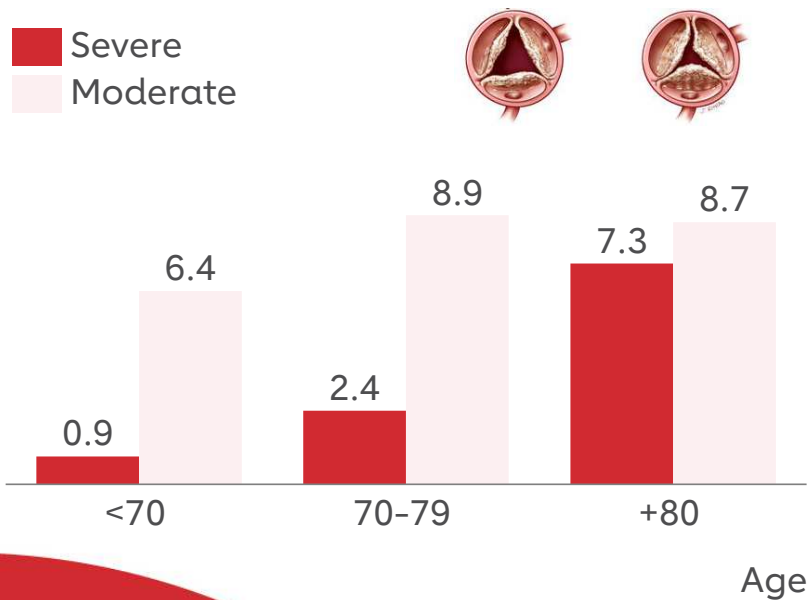
# CASE FOR CHANGE



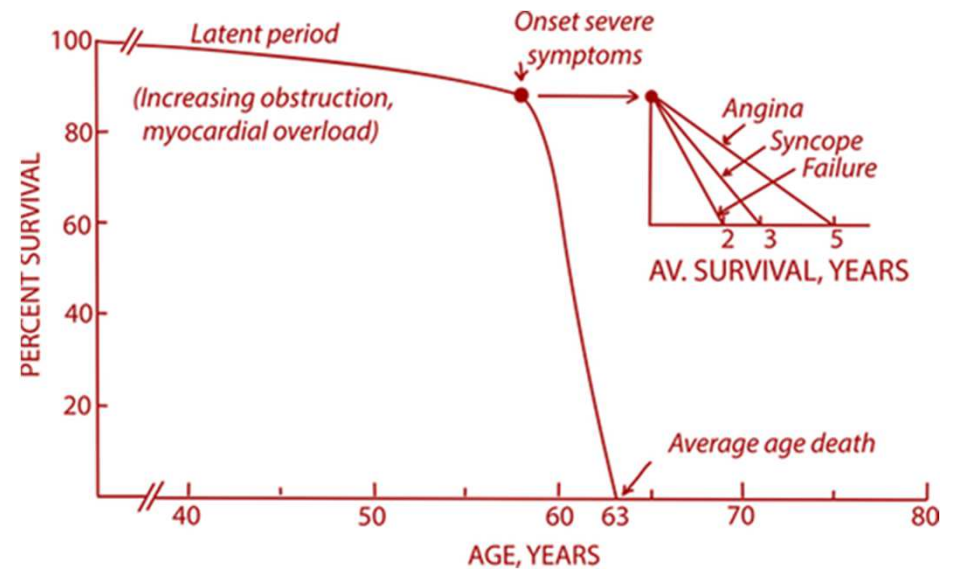
# AORTIC STENOSIS: SIGNIFICANT BURDEN & RISK IN THE ELDERLY

Risk of sAS increases with age; ~1 in 15 individuals over 80 with severe AS (sAS)

Prevalence of significant aortic stenosis (%)<sup>1</sup>



Significant mortality risk if untreated once symptoms develop

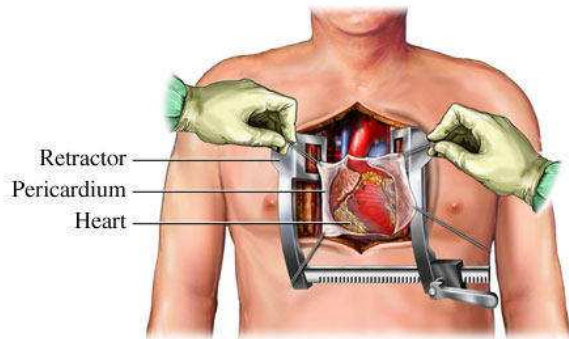


**Within 2 years** of symptom onset,  
1 in 2 patients with Severe AS **will die**  
without Aortic Valve Replacement

Sources: 1. Bonow et al. (Circulation 2015), 2. Braunwald (Circulation, 2018), 3. Ross et. al. (British Heart Journal, 1973),  
4. Braunwald et al. (Circulation, 1968)

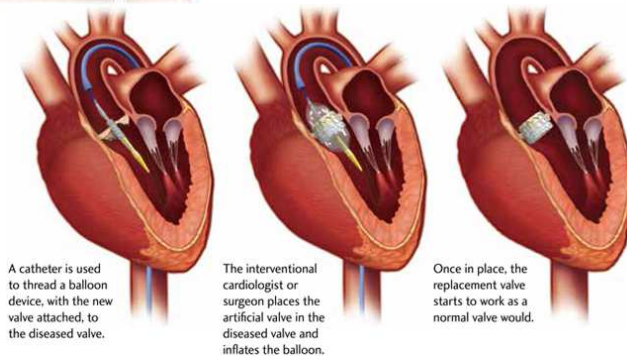


# TREATMENT INDICATED FOR SEVERE AORTIC STENOSIS WITH EVIDENCE OF MYOCARDIAL DAMAGE

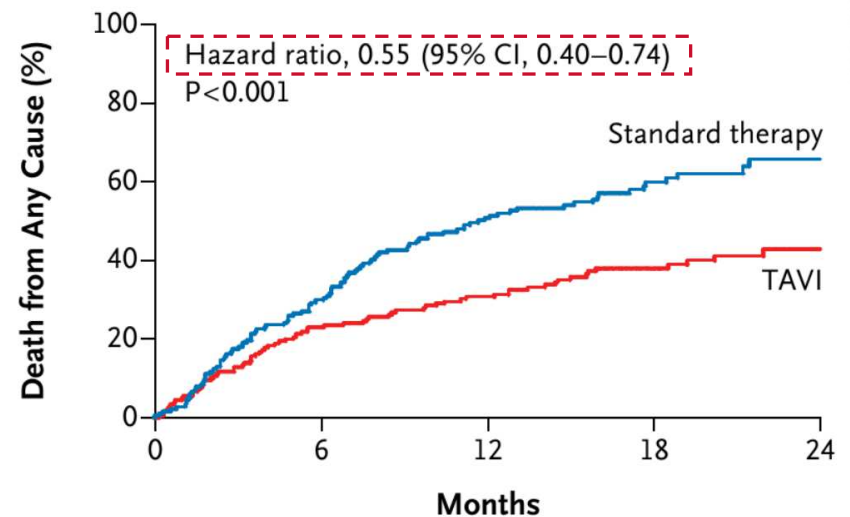


## Surgical Valve Replacement (SAVR)

## Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVI)



Survival after randomization to medical (standard) therapy or AVR (TAVI) in inoperable symptomatic  $sAS^2$

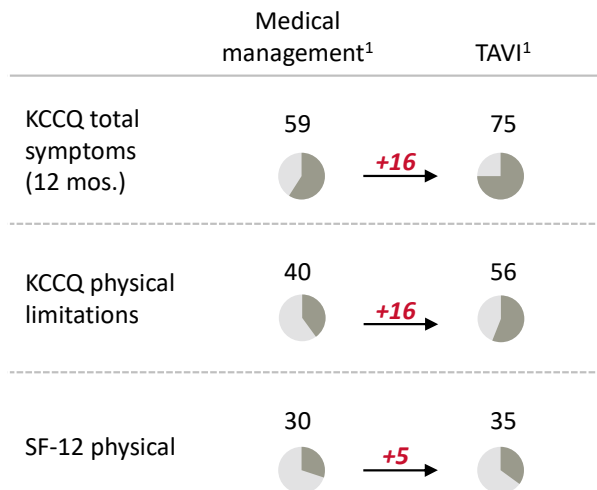


# TREATMENT BENEFITS EXTEND OUTSIDE SURVIVAL

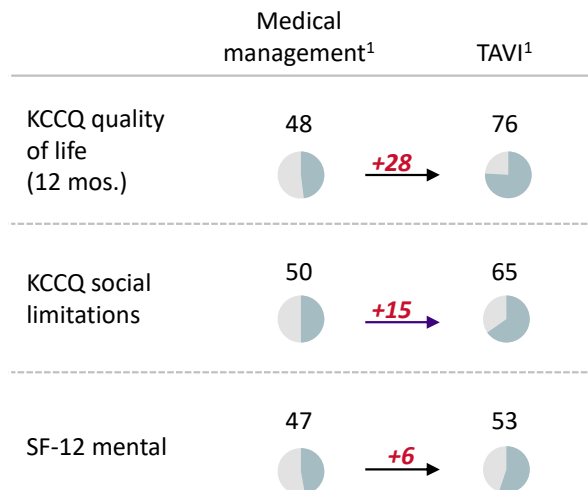
Relative to medical management, AVR (TAVI) with **significant benefit on QoL & economics**



## Physical benefits

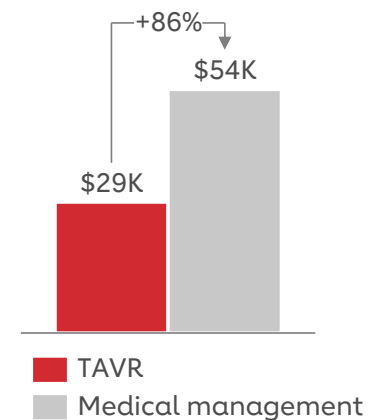


## Mental benefits



## Decreased post-op hospitalization costs<sup>2</sup>

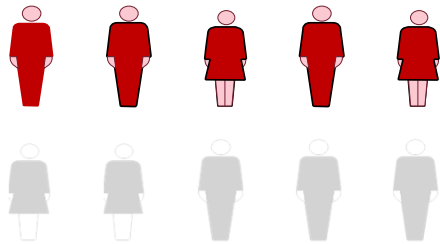
1 year follow up costs



Less than **1 in 2 patients** with known  
Severe AS **receive treatment** within a  
year after symptom development

# UNDER-TREATMENT IS EVEN GREATER FOR WOMEN & MINORITIES

Severe symptomatic AS<sup>1,2</sup>



US Population  
Treatment Rate

<50%



ssAS diagnosed  
incidence / 10k



Men  
6.09

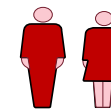


Women  
3.91

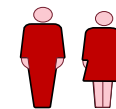
A woman is **36%** less likely to be **diagnosed** than a man, and

A woman is **20%** less likely to be **treated** than a man

ssAS diagnosed  
incidence / 10k



Caucasian  
6.20



Black  
2.19

A black patient is **65%** less likely to be **diagnosed** than a white patient

A black patient is **23%** less likely to be **treated** than a white patient

# **BARRIERS TO APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT & COVID**

# POTENTIAL CHALLENGES ACROSS THE PATIENT PATHWAY



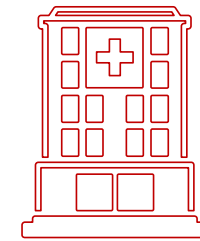
## Awareness

*Lack of recognition of the burden of sAS and its impact on patients from QoL to survival*



## Detection & diagnosis

*Failure to refer an indicated patient to echo; challenges on echo review; missed follow up for less severe AS*



## Referral

*Challenges in assessing symptomatic status, patient uncertainty in risk/benefit trade off*





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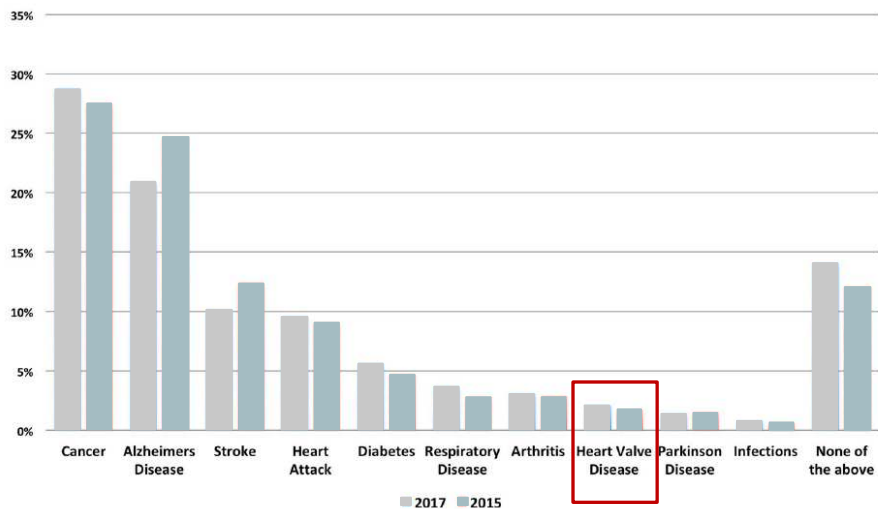
# Public Awareness Gaps



# DESPITE INROADS IN TREATMENT, AWARENESS REMAINS LOW FOR AORTIC STENOSIS

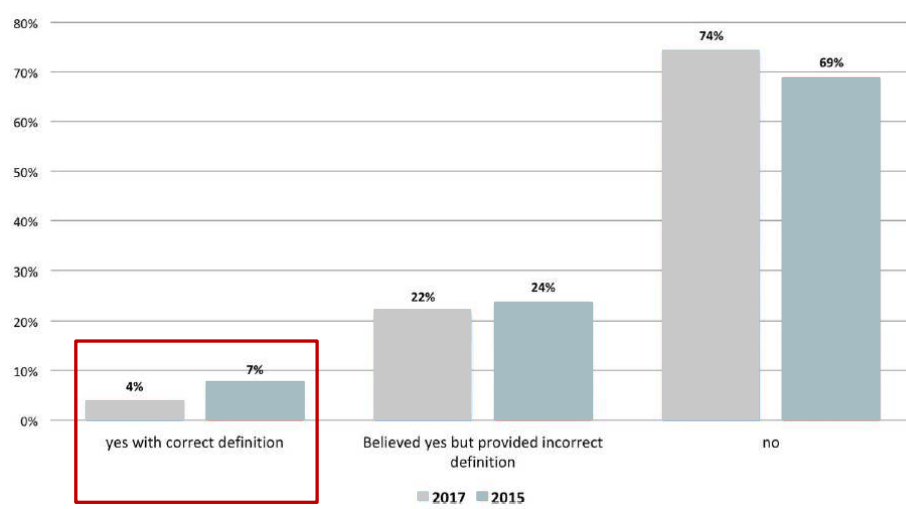
Questions for EU patients over 60

Q: Which of the following health conditions **concerns you most**?



Just **2%** of respondents said that valvular heart disease is the condition that concerns them the most

Q: Do you know what **"aortic stenosis"** is?



Even in 2017, only **4%** of respondents were aware and could correctly define aortic stenosis





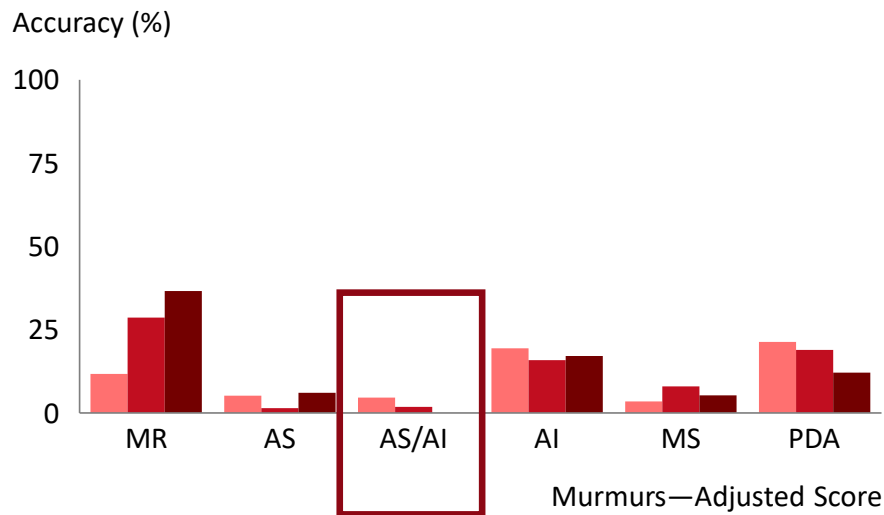
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# Detection & Diagnosis Gaps

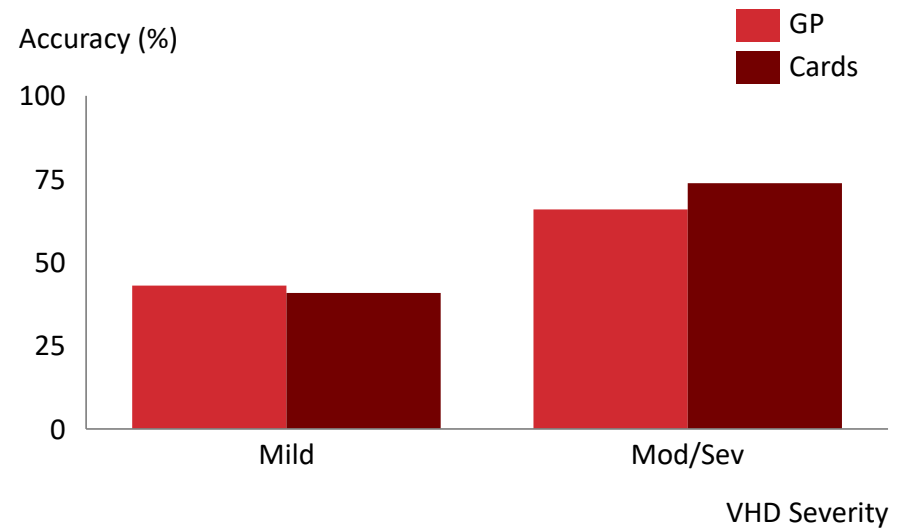


## CHALLENGES IN AUSCULTATION IN DETECTING AORTIC STENOSIS

Limited accuracy identifying AS by exam, including among graduating medical trainees<sup>1</sup>



Limited accuracy identifying Valvular Heart Disease by exam, including among practicing clinicians<sup>2</sup>

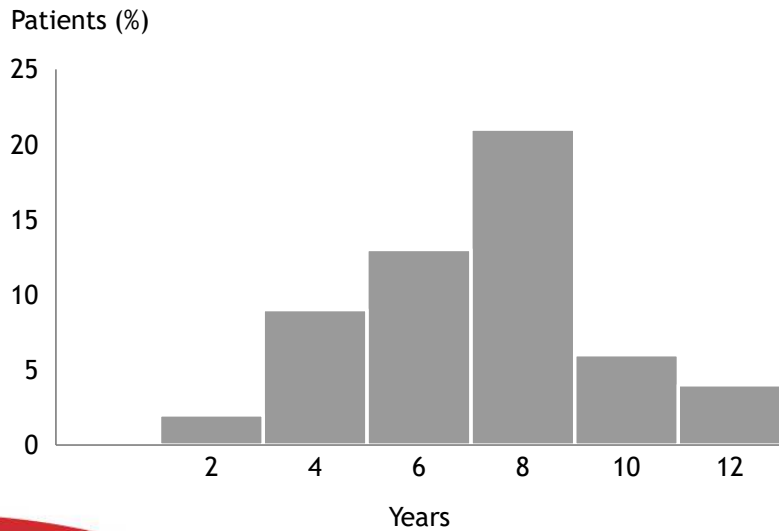




# AORTIC STENOSIS NOT INDOLENT WITH NEED FOR CAREFUL MONITORING TO CAPTURE PROGRESSION TO SIGNIFICANT DISEASE

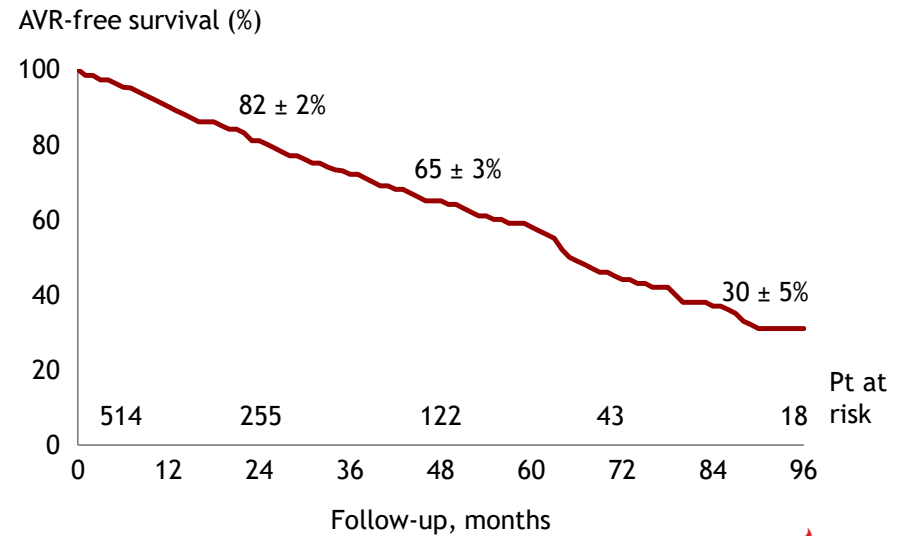
## Majority of patients progress from sclerosis to severe AS within 8 years<sup>1</sup>

Number of years from aortic valve thickening to severe aortic stenosis



## For patients with moderate disease, ~50% will require an intervention in 5 years<sup>2</sup>

AVR free survival in patients with moderate aortic stenosis

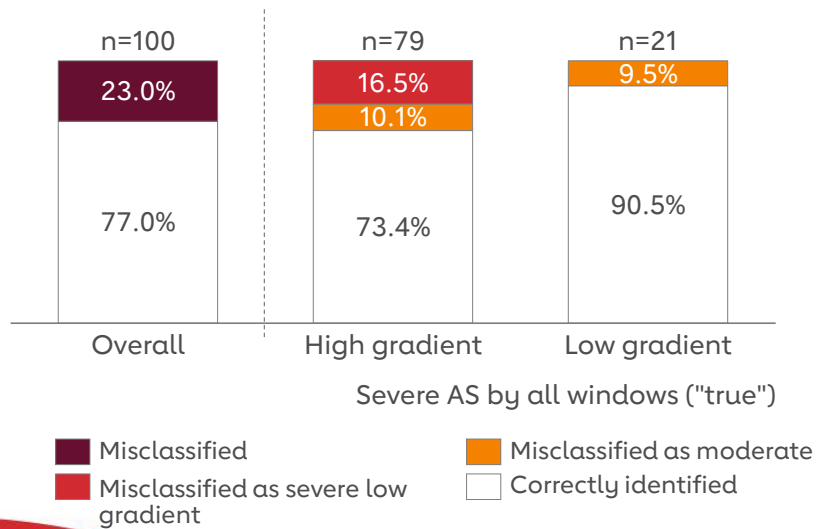




# COMPLEXITY IN ECHO TECHNIQUE AND INTERPRETATION CAN ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO MISSED SEVERE AORTIC STENOSIS

**Thorough doppler evaluation critical to accurately determine the severity of AS<sup>1</sup>**

Share of patients misclassified with only interrogating the apical window



**Variation in the number of severe AS patients diagnosed depending on echo criterion used**

Guidelines/ Recommendations	Parameter	Patients with severe stenosis
AHA/ACC <sup>3</sup>	AVA < 1.0 cm <sup>2</sup>	<b>69%</b>
ESC <sup>2</sup>	AVA/BSA < 0.6 cm <sup>2</sup>	<b>76%</b>
Otto <sup>4</sup>	V <sub>max</sub> > 4.0 m/s	<b>45%</b>
AHA/ACC <sup>3</sup>	ΔP <sub>m</sub> > 40 mmHg	<b>40%</b>

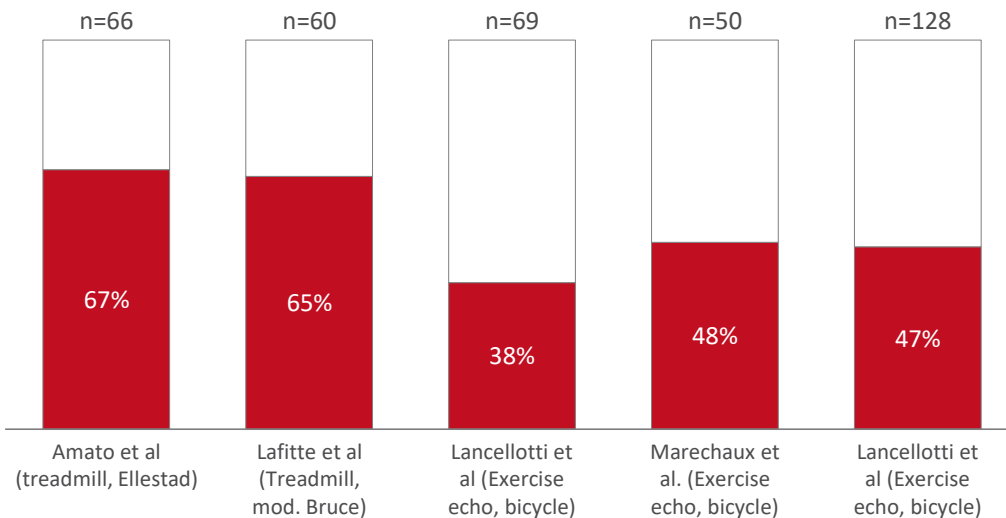
AVA, aortic valve area; BSA, body surface area; V<sub>max</sub>, peak flow velocity; ΔP<sub>m</sub>, mean pressure gradient



# EXERCISE STRESS TESTING UNDERUTILIZED, DESPITE COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF BENEFIT IN ASYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS

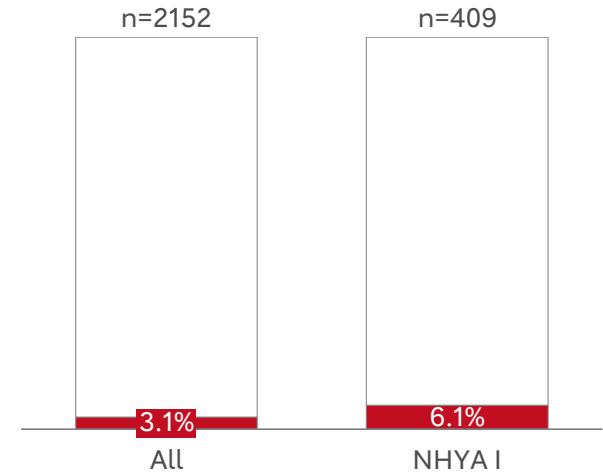
Despite literature showing formal stress tests find **abnormal** results in **40-70%** of asymptomatic severe AS cases<sup>2</sup>

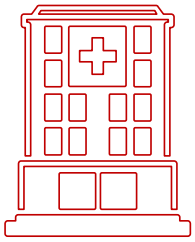
Share with abnormal stress



Valvular Heart Disease II Survey show **low** rates of formal stress testing in severe AS<sup>1</sup>

Share severe AS patients receiving stress testing





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# Referral & Treatment Gaps



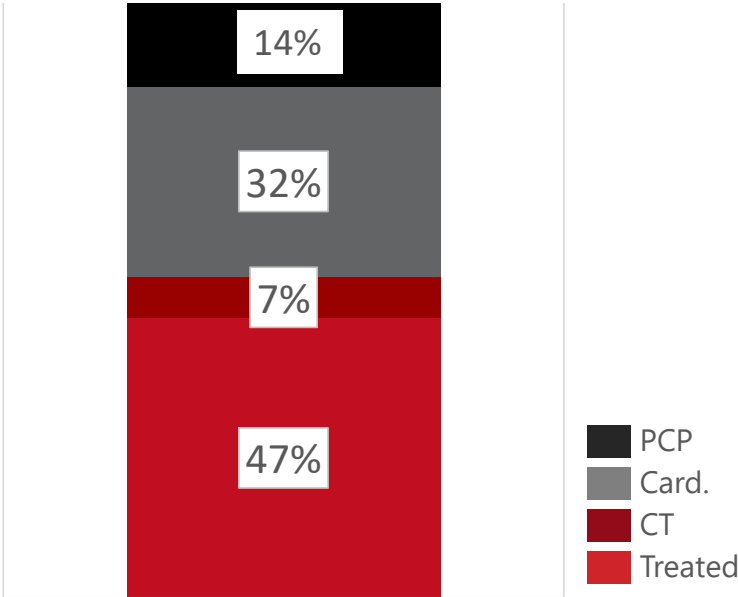


Referral

# 60% OF UNTREATED SSAS PATIENTS ARE FOLLOWED IN CARDIOLOGY CLINICS

Diagnosed untreated (by 'leakage point')

Furthest point of patient contact in the spectrum of ssAS care

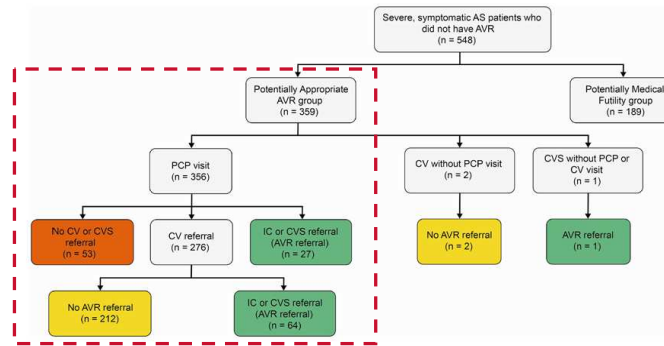


Note: Cardiologist category includes ICs with >5 PCIs, and GCs  
Source: Optum data, BCG EHR analytics





# PATIENT PREFERENCE, MISCLASSIFICATION, AND VIEW OF SYMPTOMS DRIVE REFERRAL GAPS



Potentially appropriate for AVR (n=359)

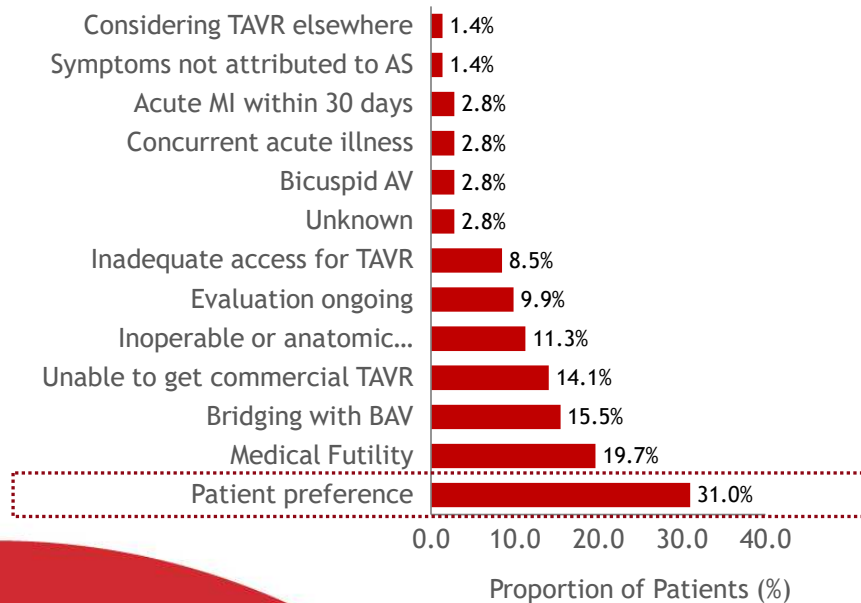
Cited reasons for no AVR in patients with severe, symptomatic AS	PCP visit only (n=53)	CV consultation, no AVR referral (n=214)	AVR referral (n=92)
Patient or family refusal, n (%)	7 (13.2)	130 (60.7)	59 (64.1)
AS incorrectly deemed not severe, n (%)	13 (24.5)	32 (15.0)	8 (8.7)
Symptoms not attributable to AS, n (%)	3 (5.7)	20 (9.3)	7 (7.6)
Mild or stable symptoms, n (%)	4 (7.5)	18 (8.4)	6 (6.5)
High risk, n (%)	0 (0)	13 (6.1)	2 (2.2)
Not documented, ‡ n (%)	26 (49.1)	0 (0)	0 (0)



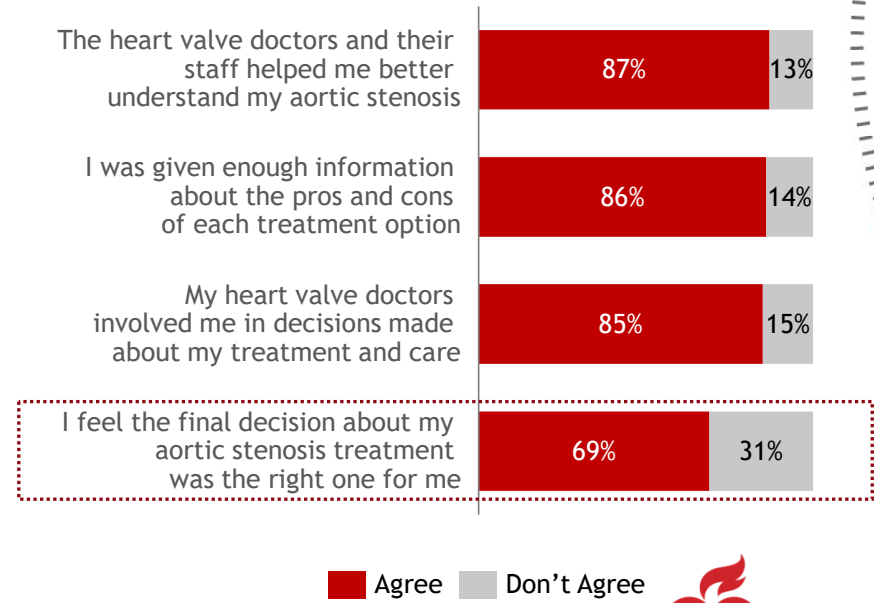
Referral

# 1 IN 3 MEDICALLY MANAGED PATIENTS “CHOOSE” THIS STRATEGY, BUT ARE THEY ADEQUATELY INFORMED?

Among medically managed patients, 31% chose ‘no treatment’ after referral<sup>1</sup>...



...for these patients, 31%, felt unsure; and, 14% didn't feel adequately prepared for the decision<sup>1</sup>

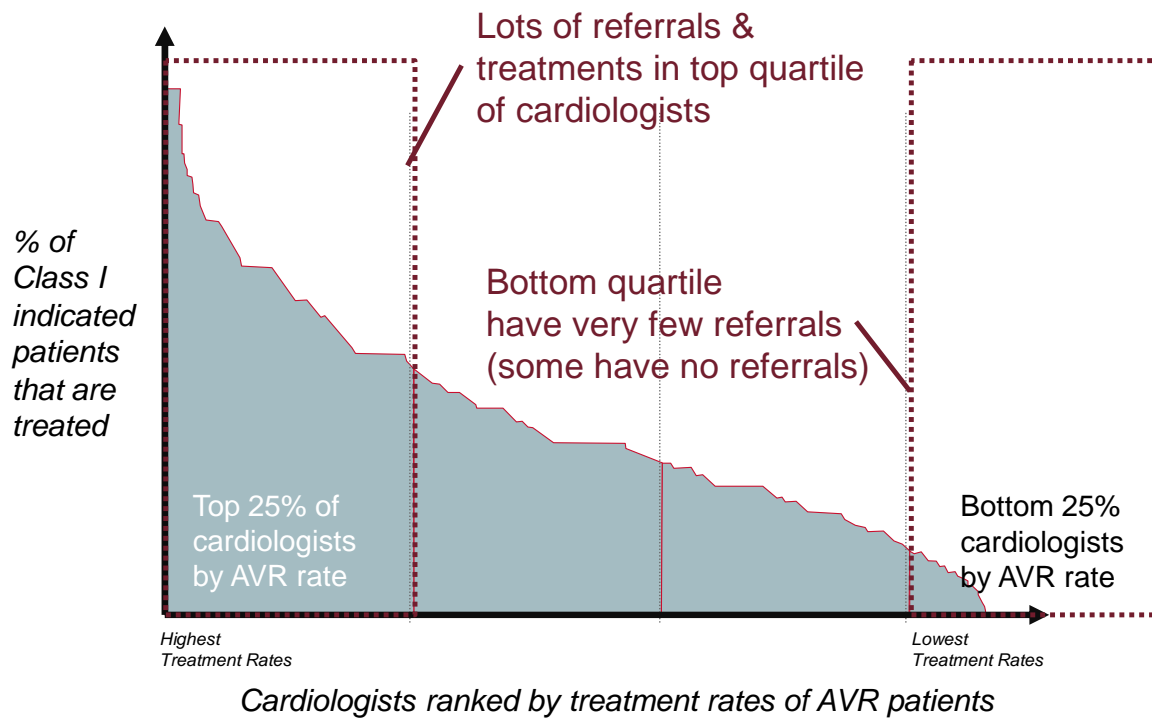


Agree Don't Agree



Sources: 1. Dharmarajan K. | PLOS ONE | <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0175926> April 21, 2017

# VARIATION IN AVR RATES AMONG US CARDIOLOGISTS



**2.28**  
95% CI 2.17 to 2.38

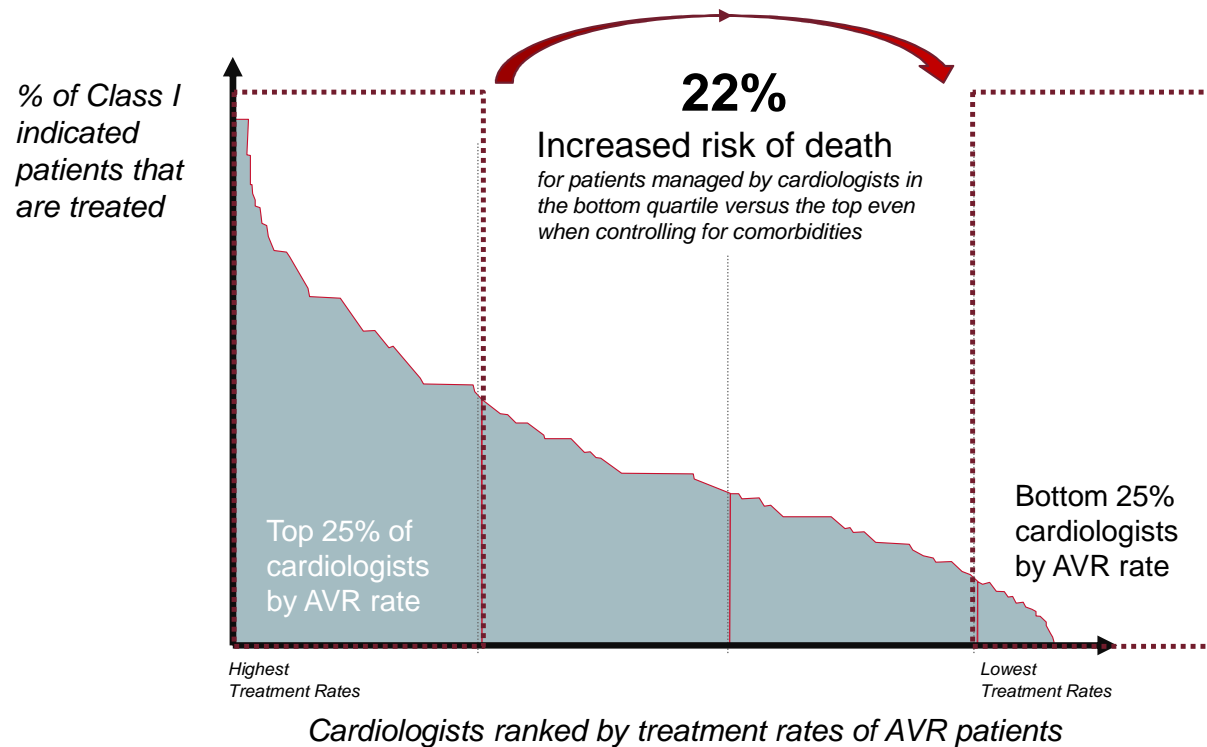
**2.3x likelihood of different outcome (AVR or no AVR) if the patient had another managing cardiologist**

Median odds ratio (MOR) expresses the likelihood of a different outcome (i.e. AVR) if a patient goes to another randomly selected provider. MOR of 1 indicates no difference in outcomes between providers; MOR of 1.5 indicates 50% chance of a different outcome if the patient goes to another randomly selected physician. Source: Optum EHR, n=30,642 patients. BCG analysis.

1. Brennan, TVT 2019. 2. Median odds ratio (MOR) expresses the likelihood of a different outcome (i.e. AVR) if a patient goes to another randomly selected provider. MOR of 1 indicates no difference in outcomes between providers; MOR of 1.5 indicates 50% chance of a different outcome if the patient goes to another randomly selected physician. MOR can be directly compared to hazard ratios.

## IMPACT OF WATCHFUL WAITING

Significant variation in cardiologist ssAS treatment rate with impact on outcomes

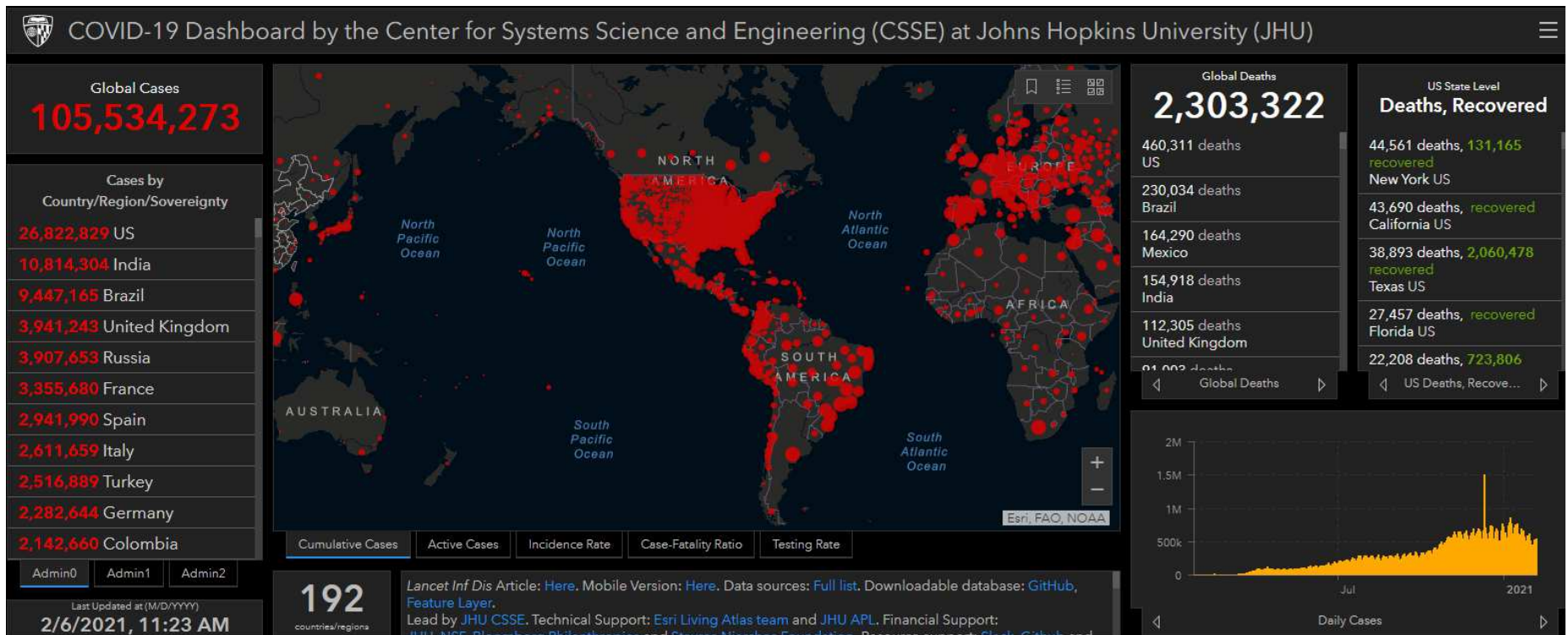


1. Yes . 2. Median odds ratio (MOR) expresses the likelihood of a different outcome (i.e. AVR) if a patient goes to another randomly selected provider. MOR of 1 indicates no difference in outcomes between providers; MOR of 1.5 indicates 50% chance of a different outcome if the patient goes to another randomly selected physician. MOR can be directly compared to hazard ratios.



Referral

# COVID-19: IMPACT OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC ON SEVERE SYMPTOMATIC AORTIC STENOSIS





# COVID-19: IMPACT OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC ON SEVERE SYMPTOMATIC AORTIC STENOSIS

Temporary guidance to **triage intervention** including **AVR during COVID-19**

Issued April 2020

-- All Journals --

JACC Journals | Issues | Topics | Multimedia | Guidelines

JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions  
April 2020  
DOI: 10.1016/j.jcin.2020.04.001  
Just Accepted

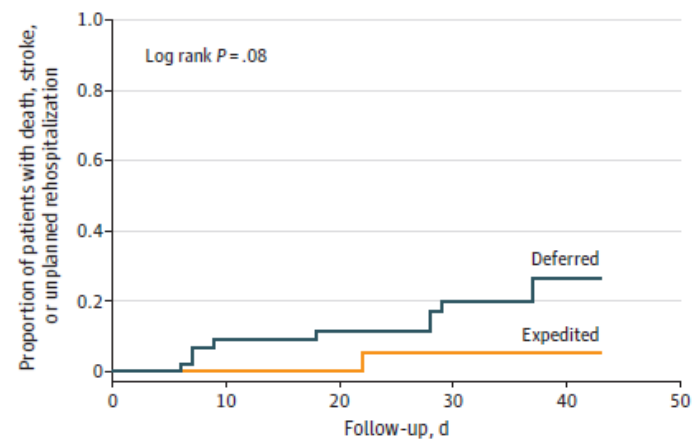
PDF Article

## Triage Considerations for Patients Referred for Structural Heart Disease Intervention During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic: An ACC/SCAI Consensus Statement

Pinak B. Shah, Frederick G.P. Welt, Ehtisham Mahmud, Alistair Phillips, Neal S. Kleiman, Michael N. Young, Matthew Sherwood, Wayne Batchelor, Dee Dee Wang, Laura Davidson, Janet Wyman, Sabeeda Kadavath, Molly Szerlip, James Hermiller, David Fullerton, Saif Anwaruddin and from the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI)

- TAVI recommended for **highly symptomatic AS patients**
- TAVI or **close monitoring** recommended for **minimally symptomatic AS patients**

Recent prospective view highlighted **higher rates of adverse events** associated with **deferred AVR**<sup>1</sup>

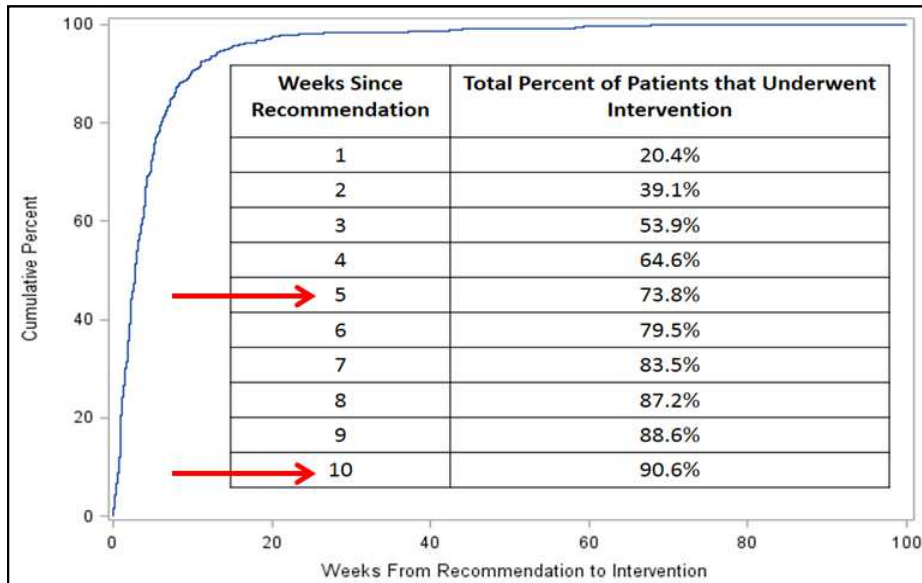


No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40	50
Deferred	46	38	35	27	6	0
Expedited	25	24	19	14	8	0

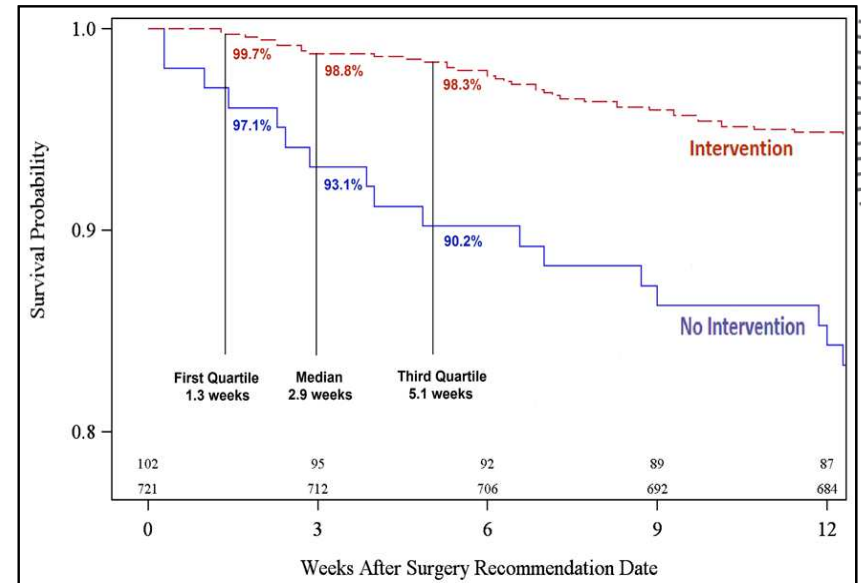


# COMMON TREATMENT DELAYS COST LIVES<sup>1</sup>

1 in 4 patients waited >5 weeks from referral to treatment



5-week delay translates to an 8% increase in mortality





# LOOKING FORWARD TO IMPROVING CARE

# TARGET: AORTIC STENOSIS

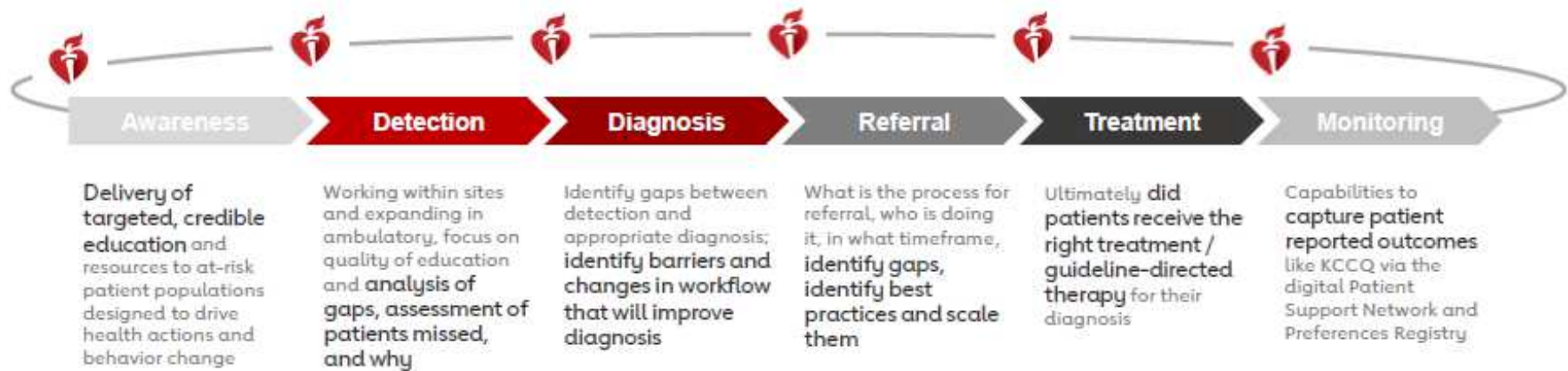


Shining a light to find the path forward



# TARGET: AORTIC STENOSIS

## Structural Heart Disease Patient Care Pathway



## WHAT WOULD BE THE IMPACT OF BUILDING TO A GOLD STANDARD LEVEL OF CARE?

- ✓ With a proactive recognition of individuals at high-risk of sAS
- ✓ Objective criteria to indicate intervention timing and management protocols
- ✓ Greater society engagement and recognition
- ✓ Stronger public awareness and urgency to intervene
- ✓ At least 90% of patients receiving appropriate treatment



Potential for  
an additional  
**233,000** life years  
saved annually<sup>1</sup>

Note: Life years saved (232,455) determined by multiplying the expected life year extension from a TAVI procedure (2.7 years) by the annual incidence of diagnosed untreated sAS patients (86,095).  
Source: Analyses of Optum data

**BECAUSE THEY'RE WORTH IT...**



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# TARGET: AORTIC STENOSIS THE INITIATIVE

Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, MACC, FAHA, MACP, FHFSa

Vice Dean, Diversity & Inclusion

Magerstadt Professor of Medicine, Professor of Medical Social Sciences,

Chief, Division of Cardiology Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

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Chicago, IL

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American Heart Association®

Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# Disclosures Dr. Yancy

Editor- JAMA Network

Special Government Employee- Department of Health and Human Services

Consultant- NHLBI, NIH, PCORI

Spousal employment, Abbott, Inc.



American Heart Association®

Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# Initiative Objectives

**A vision** of lowering cardiovascular mortality, specifically by “establishing and advancing a new standard of care in structural heart disease”

*How we will get there:*



**Quality Systems Improvement**



**Public Health Awareness & Education**



**External Partnerships**

Measure & recognize quality, deliver guideline-directed, optimal-care.

Launch programs to increase patient awareness and engagement.

Amplify our reach with strategic organizational partnerships.





American Heart Association.

Target: Aortic Stenosis™



# Announcement: November 2019



Heart Attack And Stroke Symptoms Volunteer Donate

Newsroom

News Media Access

Policies & Resources

Multimedia Resources

Connect With Us

Search Newsroom... Q

Newsroom / Search News Releases / New structural heart disease initiative aims to extend and improve patients' lives

Categories: Program News | Published: November 17, 2019

## New structural heart disease initiative aims to extend and improve patients' lives

Together with support of Edwards Lifesciences, the American Heart Association's initiative addresses need for improvements in identification of patients with aortic stenosis and adherence to treatment guidelines



Embargoed for release November 17, 2019 2:30 p.m. ET

PHILADELPHIA, November 17, 2019 — Millions of people are living with structural heart disease in the United States, and many may be unaware or lack effective diagnoses and

“Our **shared vision** of ensuring all structural heart disease patients are identified and appropriately treated is no small undertaking.

**With the support of Edwards Lifesciences** and working with our clinical network on our patient-centered public outreach programs, we can better help the millions of Americans impacted by structural heart disease each year”

Nancy Brown,  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Heart Association

“We are excited to be collaborating with an organization who **shares our passion for helping transform patients' lives.**

Together with the Association, we are confident we can have a **positive impact** on people living with structural heart disease.

The Association is uniquely positioned to lead this initiative given its representation of not only the scientific community, but also patients and the full spectrum of care providers, all aimed at helping people live longer, healthier lives.”

Todd J. Brinton, M.D., F.A.C.C.  
Corporate Vice President of Advanced Technology and  
Chief Scientific Officer  
Edwards Lifesciences



American Heart Association.

Target: Aortic Stenosis™

## Aortic Stenosis Initiative Overview

To help healthcare providers identify and refine better/best practices that can be leveraged and scaled as part of an intensive continuous quality improvement for patients living with Aortic Stenosis.

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Increased awareness of the signs and symptoms of aortic stenosis among at risk populations.



Increased percentage of aortic stenosis patients who are identified and diagnosed.



Improved clinical pathways and processes to impact patient outcomes.



Increased compliance with established guidelines for the appropriate follow-up of structural heart disease patients at discharge and beyond.





American Heart Association®

Target: Aortic Stenosis™

## Indications for aortic valve replacement and TAVI (surgical or transcatheter)

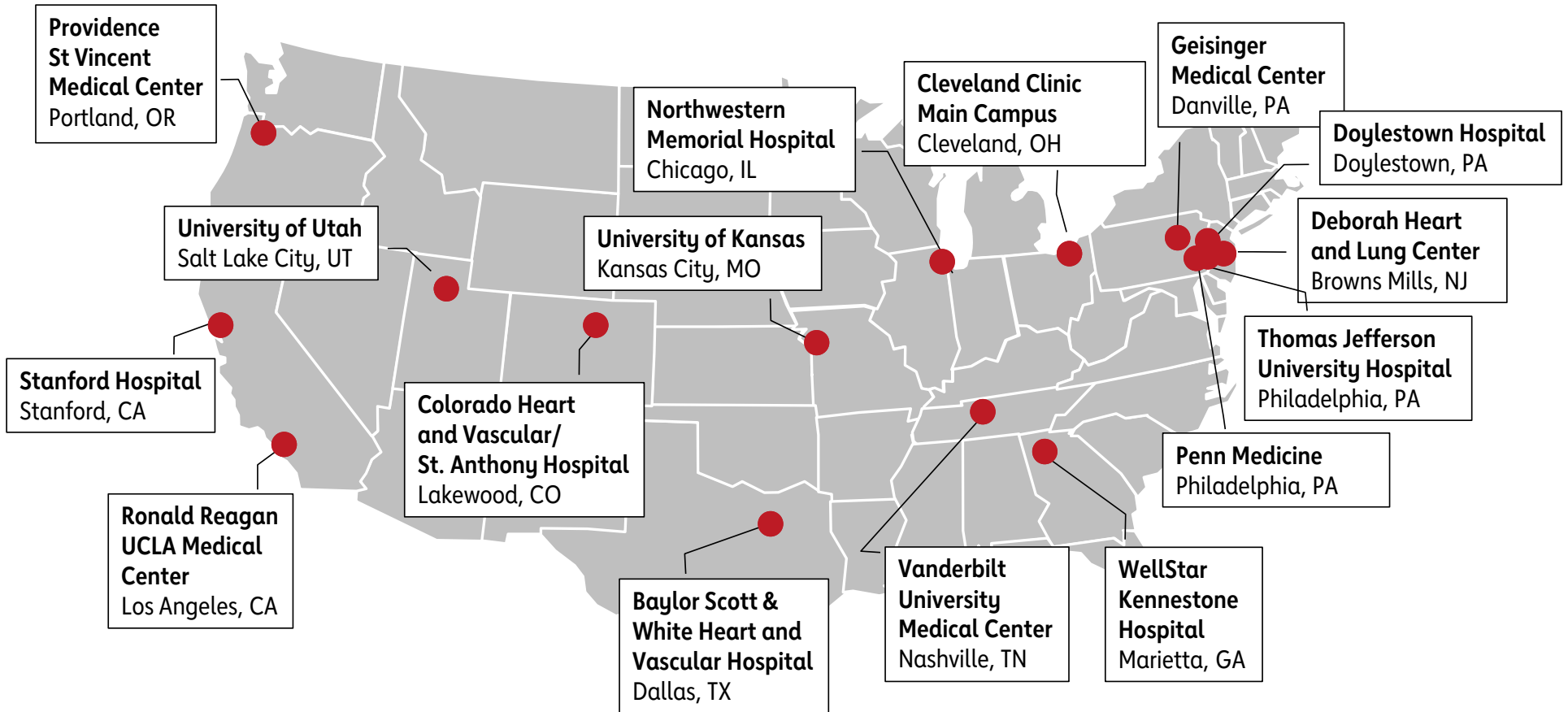
- Severe high-gradient AS with symptoms (class 1 recommendation, level A evidence)
- Asymptomatic patients with severe AS and LVEF < 50 (class 1 recommendation, level B-NR evidence)
- Severe AS when undergoing other cardiac surgery (class 1 recommendation, level B-NR evidence)
- Asymptomatic severe AS and low surgical risk (class 2a recommendation, level B-R evidence)
- Symptomatic with low-flow/low-gradient severe AS (class 1 recommendation, level B-NR evidence)
- Moderate AS and undergoing other cardiac surgery (class 2b recommendation, level C-EO evidence)
- TAVI is preferred among symptomatic patients of any age with high or prohibitive surgical risk, if predicted survival after intervention is >12 months with an acceptable quality of life (class 1 recommendation, level A evidence)



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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# Participating Pilot Sites

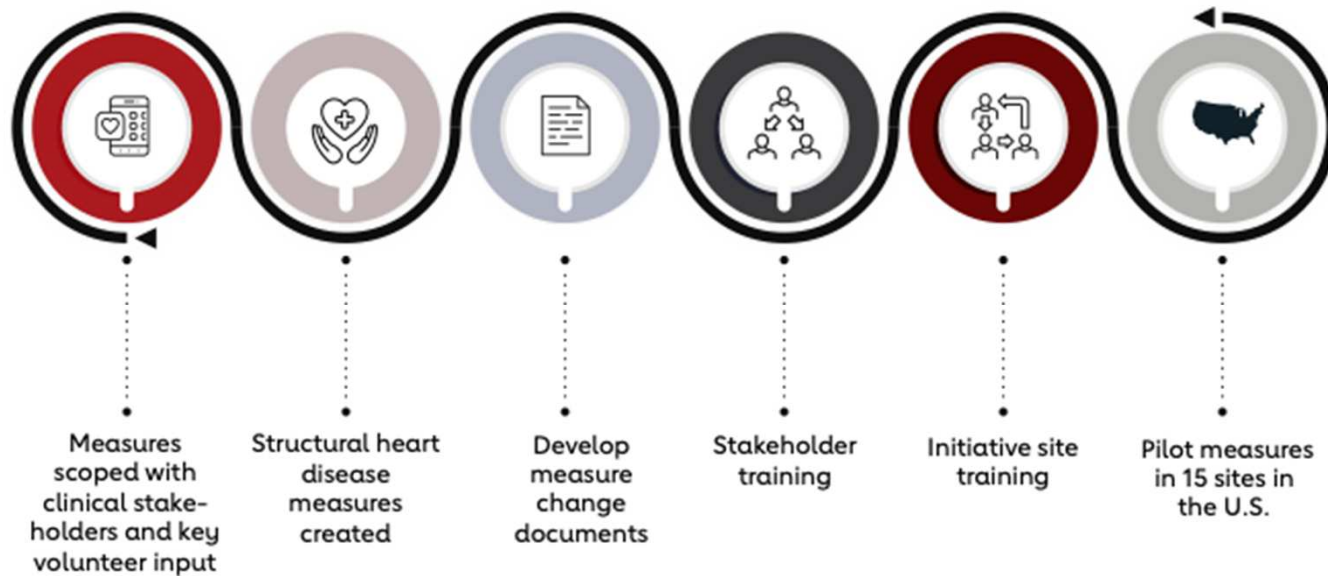




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# Measure Development and Integration



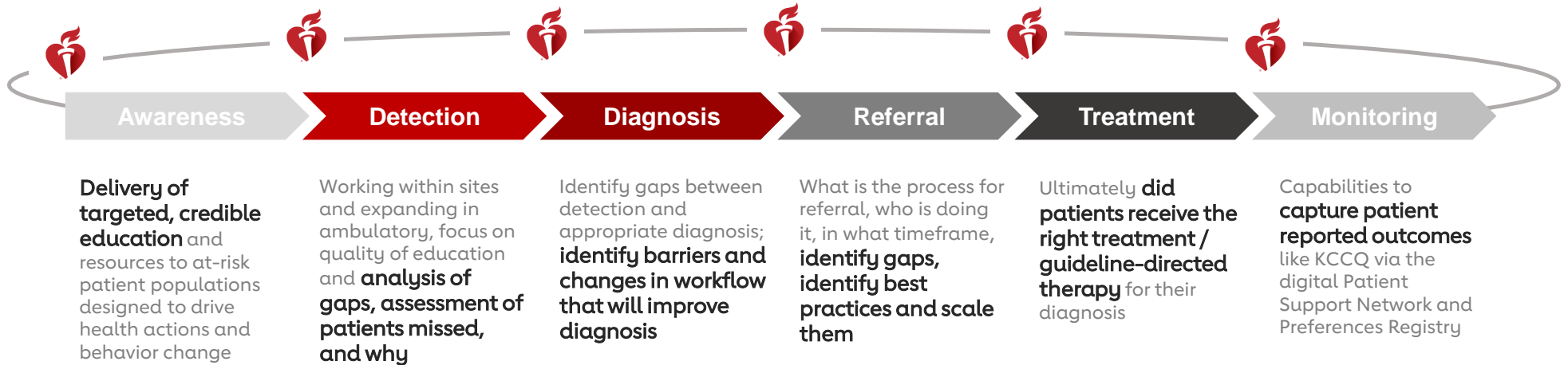


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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# Establish and advance a new standard of care for patients with aortic stenosis

## Structural Heart Disease Patient Care Pathway





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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# Pilot Measures to Improve the Patient Care Pathway

## Structural Heart Disease Patient Care Pathway



Diagnosis	Referral	Treatment	Monitoring / QoL Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of moderate aortic stenosis patients receiving a follow-up echocardiogram during the measurement period (index echo) that is within 24 months of prior echocardiogram.</li> <li>Percentage of echocardiogram reports performed within a health system with aortic velocity <math>\geq 4</math> m/s that include the severity of aortic stenosis and a clinical recommendation for further evaluation/referral of patients</li> <li>Percentage of patients with low flow, low gradient severe aortic stenosis who receive a dobutamine stress test during the measurement period</li> <li>Percentage of patients with asymptomatic severe aortic stenosis who receive either an exercise stress test or an assessment of activity tolerance to confirm symptom status within 6 months of diagnosis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of patients diagnosed with severe aortic stenosis during the measurement period who were evaluated by the Multidisciplinary Heart Valve Team within 14 days of initial diagnosis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of patients who receive definitive treatment (SAVR, TAVI or Palliative Care) within 30 days of initial evaluation by the Multidisciplinary Heart Valve Team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of patients who completed a Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ-12) prior to and within 30 days after TAVI</li> <li>Percentage of patients who completed a Kansas City Cardiomyopathy Questionnaire (KCCQ-12) prior to and within 90 days after SAVR</li> <li>Percent of patients who had improvement of at least 10 points in their KCCQ-12 score or had a total KCCQ-12 score of <math>\geq 60</math> at 30 day after TAVI</li> </ul>



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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

## Pilot Measure Development Process

1. Environmental Scan: Reviewed relevant guidelines and other literature related to key processes of care for patients with Aortic Stenosis.
2. Measure Concept Development: Proposed potential measure concepts based on literature review and initial input from SAG and industry partners
3. Measure Selection: In collaboration with the SAG, selected measure concepts for further development and specification based on level of supporting evidence, importance and feasibility.
4. Measure Development: With guidance from the SAG, identified target population (denominator), exclusions and exceptions and patients to include in numerator for each measure and method of reporting (e.g., rate or distribution)
5. Approval: Final review and approval by the full SAG.
6. Specification: Identified required data elements and created detailed measure logic for implementation in the AHA GWTC - CORE registry.
7. Elaboration and Implementation: Worked with IT vendor to ensure that programming and implementation are consistent with the intent of the measures.
8. Post-Pilot Refinement: Based on feedback from the sites, findings related to availability of data and an understanding of site workflow, we will add, refine or retire measures, as needed.

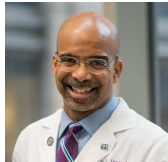




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# Aortic Stenosis Science Advisory Group Members



**Clyde W. Yancy MD, MSc, MACC, FAHA, MACP, FHFA**

Vice Dean, Diversity & Inclusion

Magerstadt Professor of Medicine, Professor of Medical Social Sciences

Chief, Division of Cardiology Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine

Associate Director, Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute Northwestern Memorial Hospital

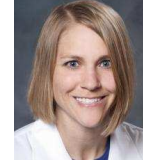


**Gregg C. Fonarow MD, FACC, FAHA, FHFA**

Elliot Corday Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, UCLA Division of Cardiology

Director, Ahmanson-UCLA Cardiomyopathy Center

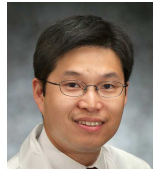
Co-Chief, UCLA Division of Cardiology



**Suzanne V. Arnold, MD**

Clinical Scholar and Cardiologist

Research Assistant Professor, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Department of Biomedical and Health Informatics



**Wilson Y. Szeto, MD**

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Surgical Director, Transcatheter Cardio-Aortic Therapies

Vice Chief of Clinical Operations and Quality, Division of Cardiovascular Surgery

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Editor-in-Chief, *Heart*

Professor, Medicine

J. Ward Kennedy-Hamilton Endowed Chair in Cardiology

Director, Heart Valve Clinic

Attending Physician, University of Washington Medical Center



**Pinak Bipin Shah, MD**

Director of Cardiac Catheterization Lab

Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School  
Cardiovascular Medicine





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# A Focus on Quality



Get With The Guidelines - Stroke



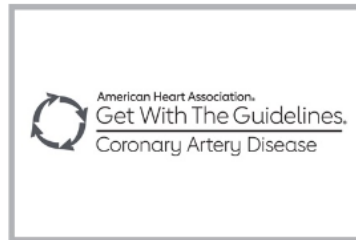
Get With The Guidelines - Heart Failure



Get With The Guidelines - Resuscitation



Get With The Guidelines - AFIB



Get With The Guidelines - Coronary Artery Disease



Hospital Certification



Mission: Lifeline



Target: Heart Failure



Target: Stroke



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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# The Creation and Testing Target: Aortic Stenosis Tool

Leveraging the Get With The Guidelines-CORE environment, we rapidly created and deployed a new stand-alone data collection tool specifically for Aortic Stenosis.

## *Get With The Guidelines - CORE*

- Rapid deployment of data elements and measures.
- CORE environment is standard platform that can be quickly customized.
- Allows for pilot environment, still under data use agreements, to enter patient data

## *Aortic Stenosis Tool Pilot*

- Patient form: one-time entry for each patient
- Event form: added to patient for each event or visit
- 68 data elements
- Reports for all measures, and specialized reports to monitor progress throughout year.
- Robust reporting, both for the hospital and comparison against the aggregate.



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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

**Changing  
Behavior  
Through  
Improving  
Process**



## **Learning Collaborative Model**

Spread best practices nationally through education, model sharing, developed tools and resources, and abstracts

Identify consensus best practices among collaborative hospitals, bridging gaps within the patient journey to treatment

Engage all hospitals in learning collaborative model to share practices (barriers and achievements) to identify opportunities for improvement along the journey

Analysis of individual hospital patient journey from identification, diagnostics, treatment and referral process





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## **National Target: Aortic Stenosis Learning Collaborative**

### **Partnering pilot hospitals are testing:**

- Data entry and data migration into a new tool
- Reporting capabilities
- Third party vendor applications
- Pilot measures and delivering feedback

### **Partnering pilot hospitals will be developing:**

- Best practices impacting the Aortic Stenosis patient journey
- Tools and education that will be shared nationally



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## Patient Engagement



Patient/Provider toolkit



Online/download patient education tools



Webinar/podcast series content



Owned, earned, paid social media



Dedicated forum within Support Network



Patient stories on Support Network



Initiative promotion on AHA owned email channels





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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

## Who We're Talking To

### Target Audience

Diagnosed and Undiagnosed AS patients  
65+ experiencing symptoms and their loved ones



Target: Aortic  
Stenosis™

#### *Insights:*

- Age-related aortic stenosis usually begins after age 60
- Patients may not fully recognize disease progression and risks
- Abnormal heart murmurs may be missed, or doctors may fail to associate the symptoms with the disease



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# Patient Tools and Resources

Find out more about managing aortic stenosis:

## Newly Diagnosed

If you were recently diagnosed with aortic stenosis, you probably have questions. Find out about symptoms, risk factors and treatments.

[Learn more about AS >](#)

## Track Your Symptoms

It's important to track your symptom progression to determine if it is getting better or worse. You may not experience noticeable symptoms until the narrowed valve greatly reduces blood flow.

[Download the AS symptom tracker >](#)

## Treatment Options

AS can be treated and managing it appropriately can reduce the negative impact on your quality of life. If you notice a decline in routine physical activities or significant fatigue, it's worth a visit to your health care professional.

[Learn about the AS care team >](#)





## Newsroom Release

The screenshot shows the American Heart Association Newsroom website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo, a search bar, and links for 'Heart Attack And Stroke Symptoms', 'Volunteer', and 'Donate'. Below the navigation bar, the 'Newsroom' section is visible, with a search bar and a list of categories: 'News Media Access', 'Policies & Resources', 'Multimedia Resources', and 'Connect With Us'. The main content area features a 'COVID-19 Newsroom' section with the subtext 'The latest COVID-19 news, information, experts and multimedia resources from the American Heart Association'. Below this, there are three article thumbnails. The first article is titled 'Scheduling surgery, COVID-19 risks and more: What heart valve patients need to know' and is dated May 05, 2020. The second article is 'More than 250 organizations send letters to congressional leaders, HHS calling for COVID-19 demographic data' and is also dated May 05, 2020. The third article is 'Genetic scoring can identify more men at risk for aortic aneurysm' and is dated May 05, 2020. There is also a partial view of a fourth article titled 'Brain emotional activity linked to'.

[newsroom.heart.org/news/scheduling-surgery-covid-19-risks-and-more-what-heart-valve-patients-need-to-know](https://newsroom.heart.org/news/scheduling-surgery-covid-19-risks-and-more-what-heart-valve-patients-need-to-know)

# COVID-19 and AS Response

Categories: COVID-19, Heart News, Program News | Published: May 05, 2020

## Scheduling surgery, COVID-19 risks and more: What heart valve patients need to know



DALLAS, May 5, 2020 — An estimated five million patients in the United States live with heart valve disease, and many have had upcoming valve repair surgery rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Heart Association, along with 14 North American cardiovascular societies, recently issued a framework for safely resuming cardiovascular treatment, such as heart valve surgery, during the COVID-19 pandemic. People with heart valve disease live with symptoms that include shortness of breath, chest tightness and fatigue daily and must be especially cautious to avoid contracting COVID-19, due to the increased risk for complications.

"The most important thing for people with heart valve disease is to stay healthy and stay as active as possible," said Suzanne Arnold, cardiologist, St. Luke's Health System, Kansas City, Missouri in a video by the American Heart Association, the world's leading voluntary health organization dedicated to a world of longer, healthier lives. "Generally, heart valve patients whose condition can't wait a few months are continuing to have the procedures done; whereas it may be safer for patients with less urgent valve problems to wait until things settle out a bit at the hospitals."

For those who have an upcoming procedure, Arnold advises patients to also maintain good nutrition and physical activity and follow public health protocols for COVID-19 prevention. "The healthier you are going into the surgery, the quicker the recovery, which means fewer complications, shorter length of stay at the hospital and faster recovery after returning home" she said.

Arnold also advises people with heart valve disease to be diligent when it comes to social distancing and coronavirus prevention. "While COVID-19 could attack anyone, people with underlying medical conditions are at greater risk of developing serious illness with COVID-19. This is likely the bigger concern - not that COVID-19 makes the [heart valve disease] worse, but that the valve disease may make COVID-19 harder to beat," she said.

Learn more about heart valve disease and how to manage symptoms at home at [heart.org/heartvalves](https://heart.org/heartvalves).

Get the latest American Heart Association information and recommendation on COVID-19 here.

Related Images



American Heart Association logo

Large Heart and Torch with American Heart Association text.

<https://www.heart.org/en>

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Download (98.4 kB)



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Target: Aortic Stenosis™

# COVID-19 and AS Response

## Dr. Arnold & AHA collaborate to address AS patient concerns during COVID-19

### OBJECTIVE

Develop content for aortic stenosis patients, addressing concerns related to their condition and how it's impacted by COVID-19

**Suzanne V. Arnold**  
MD, FAHA  
St. Luke's Health System, Kansas City

COVID-19 and Heart Valve Disease

3,084 views • Apr 24, 2020

American Heart Association  
121K subscribers

Suzanne Arnold, MD, FAHA answers questions for those living with Heart Valve disease and facing treatment for Aortic Stenosis.

SHOW MORE

**SUBSCRIBE**

**AHA YouTube channel:**  
[youtube.com/watch?v=WXyyoi1shxU](https://youtube.com/watch?v=WXyyoi1shxU)

### Aortic Stenosis & COVID-19: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

If you have an underlying heart condition such as aortic stenosis, you may face a higher risk for complications if you get COVID-19. But with planning and good communication with your health care team, you can manage your risk and remain healthy.

#### What are the risks of having your valve procedure during the pandemic versus waiting?

Hospitals are following special precautions and protocols to keep you as safe as possible. But the risk of getting COVID-19 in the hospital or after you return home should be balanced with the risk of waiting to have a procedure until the COVID-19 infection rates are lower. Your doctor will discuss these risks with you and make a recommendation. Contact your health care team to learn more about specific safety procedures in place to protect patients like you.

#### Should I reschedule my appointment, surgery or procedure?

Hospitals and your health care team are constantly evaluating the spread on in light of COVID-19. It's important to discuss how your condition and stay in touch with your doctor and members of your health care team to decide whether you need treatment for your AS right away or if it's OK to wait. Talk with your heart doctor to share updates on symptoms and ask questions to ensure you're up-to-date. Information is available. Your doctor will discuss options which may include proceeding with treatment or to continue monitoring based on factors such as:

- Symptoms, especially if getting worse
- Latest echo (echocardiogram) results
- Frequency of hospitalizations
- Other medical conditions

### COVID-19: TELEHEALTH TIPS FOR HEART VALVE PATIENTS

With newly expanded telehealth coverage due to the COVID-19 pandemic, your health care provider may be implementing your first virtual visit. Here are tips to get you ready for your telehealth appointment:

- Make sure you have the necessary technology.**
  - You'll need a fully charged or plugged-in smartphone, tablet or PC with a webcam and reliable internet connection.
  - If you haven't had a video conference on the device before, test it to ensure that the camera works properly and that you're slow enough for a virtual face-to-face conversation.
- Check your insurance coverage.**

Medicare recently expanded its coverage for telehealth visits, but private insurers' coverage varies. Check with your health insurance provider to see whether a telehealth visit is covered.
- Choose a quiet, comfortable, well-lit location.**

Make sure you have enough light for your provider to clearly see you. It's best to have the light come at your face from a window. If it's behind you, it may create a glare.
- Optimize your audio.**

Use headphones or earbuds to help ensure you hear clearly and to give you privacy.

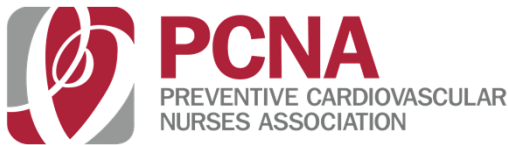


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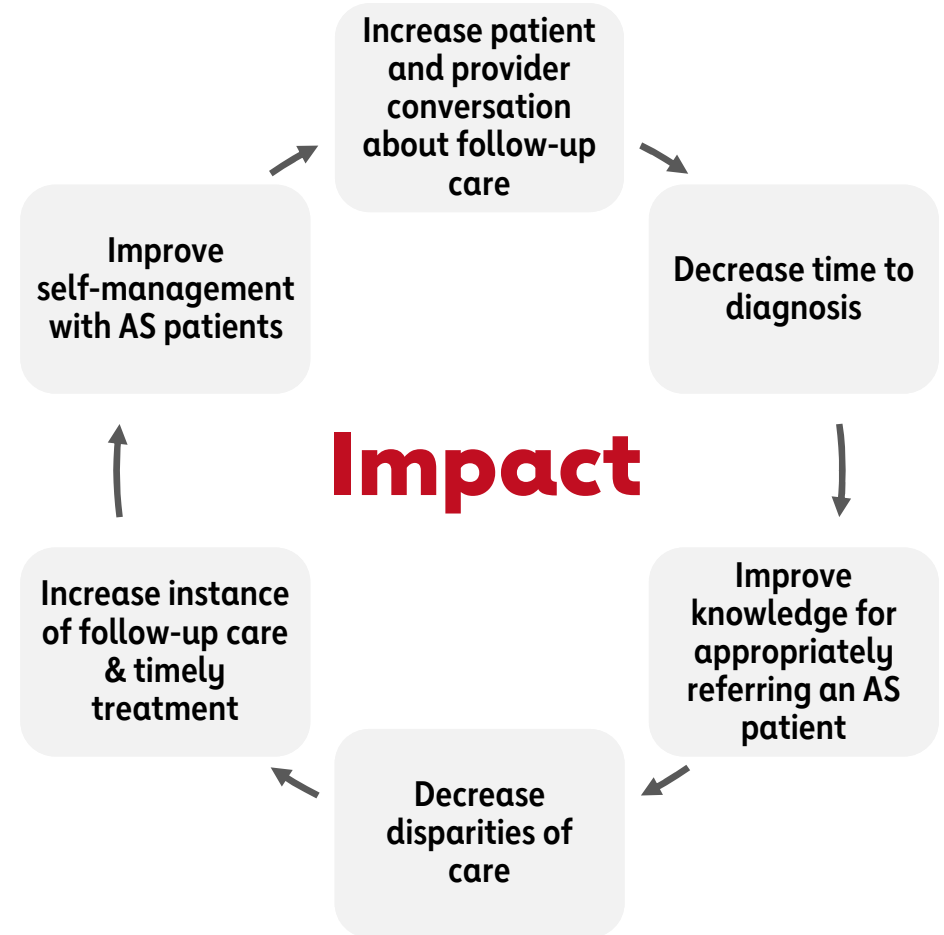
Target: Aortic Stenosis™

Amplify **Target: Aortic Stenosis** through communities or health care outreach efforts with partner organizations

Alliance organizations we've established a relationship with for year 1:



# Strategic Alliance Objectives





# **FREE WEBINAR** Key Messages for Clinicians in the **2020 AHA/ACC Guideline for the Management of Patients with Valvular Heart Disease**



**Hani Jneid, MD, FACC, FAHA, FSCAI**  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Director, Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program  
Director, Interventional Cardiology Research  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Director, Interventional Cardiology  
The Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center



**Vera Rigolin, MD**  
Professor of Cardiology  
Northwestern Medicine  
Feinberg School of Medicine



**Thoralf M. Sundt, MD**  
Cardiac Surgeon | Thoracic Surgeon  
Chief, Division of Cardiac Surgery  
Director, Corrigan Minehan Heart Center  
Co-director, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Program



**Visit [learn.heart.org](https://learn.heart.org)  
Webinar Date and Details Coming Soon!**



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**Questions – Please use Q/A section**