

A Study of Waiting Time, Hospitalisation and Mortality of Patients Referred to Tertiary Centre for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI)

Dr. Mario Quinn

Clinical Development Fellow, University Hospital Hairmyres, NHS Lanarkshire

Dr. David Carrick

Consultant Cardiologist, University Hospital Hairmyres, NHS Lanarkshire

Dr. Robin Weir

Consultant Cardiologist, University Hospital Hairmyres, NHS Lanarkshire

Abstract:

Introduction: Aortic stenosis is a common and invariably progressive valvular disease, with approximately 5% of adults over the age of 65 affected (1). Prognosis is poor, with 50% of patients dead within 2 years of symptom onset and a mortality rate at 5 years of 97% (2). The long waits for transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) results in unnecessary deaths but also in the avoidable consumption of hospital beds. Accordingly, we aimed to investigate the TAVI waiting times and waiting list (WL) morbidity and mortality of patients who are referred from NHS Lanarkshire (NHSL) to Tertiary centre, Golden Jubilee National Hospital (GJNH), for consideration of valve replacement.

Method: Data were collected retrospectively for patients referred for TAVI to the GJNH between January 1st and December 31st 2024. Data were extracted from a local electronic referral system, SCI-Gateway and a biostatistics database, Safehaven.

A total of 88 referrals were generated for TAVI across NHSL.

Results: There were 5 rejected referrals. Excluding rejections, there were 40 (48%) elective; 12 (14%) OP urgent, and 31 (37%) IP referrals generated across the three sites.

Outcome 1: Waiting Time

The mean total waiting time for all OP referrals to intervention was 203 ± 24 days (29 weeks). Waiting time for OP elective referrals was 220 ± 26 days (95% CI) and 143 days ± 34 days (95% CI) for OP urgent referrals. The mean total waiting time was for urgent inpatient (IP) referrals was 30 ± 11 days (95% CI).

Outcome 2: Hospitalisation

From the 52 OP referrals, there were 8 (15%) hospitalisations secondary to decompensated cardiac failure which warranted an expedited urgent inpatient referral. Patients admitted for expedited IP referral spent a