

PP 17: Impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the number of invasive procedures in Institute of Cardiology, National Hospital of Sri Lanka –A descriptive longitudinal study

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Introduction: Covid-19 pandemic has significantly affected healthcare services worldwide with a similar impact on invasive procedures, in Institute of Cardiology, National Hospital of Sri Lanka (NHSL).

Objectives: To analyse the impact of Covid-19 outbreak on therapeutic cardiology interventions, both elective and emergency, by comparing frequencies of procedures done during the initial affected year and immediate previous year.

Methods: A Retrospective longitudinal descriptive study was carried out on frequencies of invasive therapeutic cardiology procedures during the period of 2019 March to 2021 February, at Cardiology Unit, NHSL. Pre-formed data collection sheets were filled using hospital registries. Final analysis was done by Microsoft-Excel 365.

Results: Total number of procedures done in affected year was 4690 compared to 6096 in previous year. In April 2020, which was the most affected month, 52 cumulative procedures have been done in comparison to 427 procedures in April 2019. By August 2020 number of procedures has increased to 668 in compared to 486 in August 2019. Total of elective procedures were 3751 and 5061 in affected and non-affected years respectively. Similarly, the number of emergency procedures was 1035 in immediate previous year and 939 during Covid pandemic.

Conclusions: Study has highlighted a significant impact on invasive therapeutic cardiology procedures, especially on electives, by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially during the period of lockdown. However, there has been a compensatory increase in procedures once lockdown was over, partially compensating for the numbers. There has been less impact on emergency procedures, the numbers of which have remained relatively constant.

Keywords: COVID-19, cardiology, invasive procedures, therapeutic, interventions, impact