



American Heart Association® Get With The Guidelines®

Dear Get With The Guidelines® -Participants,

Like you, the American Heart Association is deeply concerned about the COVID-19 pandemic. Our top priority is the health and well-being of individuals and their families today and in the future, in every community, everywhere. Thank you for your selfless leadership and commitment to providing quality care during these unprecedented times.

We know that providing high quality care to cardiac and stroke patients improves outcomes and the AHA is here to support you in several ways. First, we have created a resource center for healthcare professionals to access the latest COVID-19 cardiovascular and stroke information [here](#). Secondly, we have extended deadlines for our GWTG Recognition programs and Certification programs. For more information regarding recognition and certification extensions click [here](#).

Several initial studies have reported a link between COVID-19 and preexisting cardiovascular conditions. Understanding this disease and its impacts on patients with cardiovascular disease is critical. To respond to this, we are updating our GWTG modules to collect important COVID-19 data elements. These data elements will inform our Hospitals on how this disease impacts their patients and the System of Care. By collecting the data listed below, we may be able to gain novel insights into how this disease process uniquely impacts cardiovascular and stroke patients. Your work today is driving the future of healthcare.

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none">StrokeAtrial FibrillationHeart Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Active bacterial or viral infection at admission or during hospitalization<ul style="list-style-type: none">Seasonal cold or fluEmerging Infectious Disease<ul style="list-style-type: none">SARS-COV-1	Adds the ability to track whether a patient being entered into AHA's outcomes-based registry had a concurrent active viral or bacterial	April 8 th 2020

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) ▪ MERS ○ Other infectious respiratory pathogen ○ Bacterial infection ○ None/ND 	infection upon admission or during hospitalization for the specific disease state.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroke • Atrial Fibrillation • Heart Failure 	<p>Previous Medical History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HX of Emerging Infectious Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SARS-COV-1 ○ SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) ○ MERS ○ Other infectious respiratory pathogen 	Of the patients entered in AHA's outcome-based registry, this allows for the evaluation of outcomes of patients in the disease state who have had a previous history of an emerging infectious disease. This also allows outcomes to be compared to patients who did not have a history of an emerging infectious disease.	May 2020 (tentative)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroke 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility or Medical reason(s) documented as the cause for delay in thrombolytic administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added Additional Selection: <i>Need for additional PPE for</i> 	Of the patients entered in AHA's outcome-based registry, the addition of this reason for delay can be	April 8 th 2020

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>suspected/confirmed infectious disease.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause for delay in performing mechanical endovascular reperfusion therapy documented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added Additional Selection: <i>Need for additional PPE for suspected/confirmed infectious disease.</i> 	<p>considered when evaluating timely administration of Thrombolytics or performing Mechanical Endovascular Intervention.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resuscitation 	<p>Active or suspected bacterial or viral infection at admission or during hospitalization: Code Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal cold or flu <input type="checkbox"/> Emerging Infectious Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> SARS-COV-1 <input type="checkbox"/> SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) <input type="checkbox"/> MERS <input type="checkbox"/> Other infectious respiratory pathogen <input type="checkbox"/> Other Bacterial infection <p>None/ND</p>	<p>Active or suspected bacterial or viral infection at admission or during hospitalization adds the ability to track whether a patient being entered into AHA's outcomes-based registry had a concurrent active or suspected viral or bacterial infection upon admission or during hospitalization for the specific disease state. The element was adjusted slightly to allow for inclusion of patients who</p>	<p>April 8th 2020</p>

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
		may need intervention and not have a confirmed diagnosis at the time of the cardiac arrest.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resuscitation 	<p>Additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Donned by the responders?</p> <p>Code Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes ○ No/Not documented 	<p>Of the patients entered in AHA's outcome-based registry, the addition of documentation of additional PPE allows for evaluation of any treatment delays that may occur from requiring additional PPE during resuscitation events.</p>	<p>April 8th 2020</p>
<p>Coronary Artery Disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documented non-system reason for delay- PCI? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added Additional Selection: Need for additional PPE for suspected/confirmed infectious disease. • Non-system reason – PCI? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added Additional Selection: Need for additional PPE for suspected/confirmed infectious disease. • 1st ECG Non-System Reason for Delay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added additional details to coding instructions to allow 	<p>Of the patients entered in AHA's outcome-based registry, the addition of this reason for delay can be considered when evaluating timely administration of Thrombolytics or performing Percutaneous Intervention.</p>	<p>April 11th</p>

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
	<p>for inclusion of delays from the: Need for additional PPE for suspected/confirmed infectious disease.</p>		
Coronary Artery Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active bacterial or viral infection at admission or during hospitalization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None/ND ○ Bacterial Infection ○ Emerging Infectious Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MERS ▪ SARS-COV-1 ▪ SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) ▪ Other infectious respiratory pathogen ○ Seasonal Cold or Flu 	<p>Adds the ability to track whether a patient being entered into AHA's outcomes-based registry had a concurrent active viral or bacterial infection upon admission or during hospitalization for the specific disease state.</p>	April 11th
Coronary Artery Disease	<p>Previous Medical History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Infectious Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MERS ○ SARS-COV-1 ○ SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) ○ Other infectious respiratory pathogen 	<p>Of the patients entered in AHA's outcome-based registry, this allows for the evaluation of outcomes of patients in the disease state who have had a previous history of an emerging infectious disease. This also allows outcomes to be compared to patients who</p>	April 11th

Module	Element Description	Logic and Rationale	Release Date
		did not have a history of an emerging infectious disease.	

For GWTG program related questions please contact your local QSI Director. For Technical Support please contact IQVIA Technical Support InfosarioOutcomeSupport@quintiles.com.

If you need resources or information for your patients, AHA is regularly updating a dedicated page of Coronavirus and heart health information for all available [here](#).