

MACSTRAK QUARTERLY

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 4

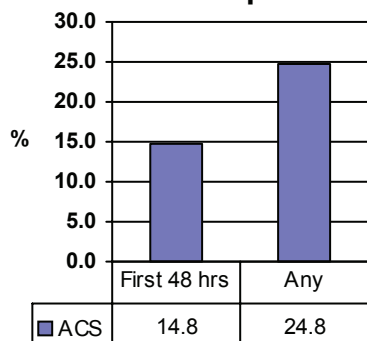
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2006

ACS - Early Invasive Therapy

Invasive therapy is an important aspect of the early management of the ACS. Two years ago, Macstrak reported on this issue and outlined the standard of practice at that time. So, how have we done since then?

Hospitals can access invasive therapy for their patients in a variety of ways. Angiography and angioplasty can be done in onsite labs, as a transfer to a tertiary hospital, or as a flyer (transferred and repatriated the same day). Macstrak not only captures angiography/angioplasty but also the transfer to a tertiary hospital. This combined outcome is a good marker of the use of early invasive therapy. Macstrak also tracks the timing of this access and can report on the delays in treatment.

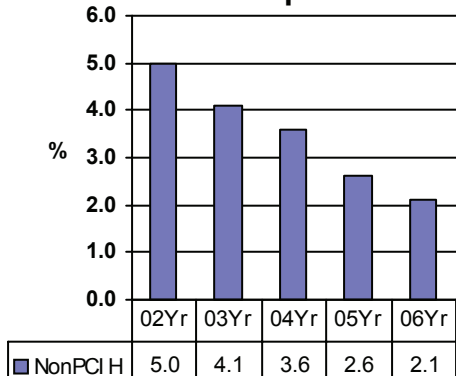
**Invasive Therapy < 48 hrs
ACS NoSTUp/UA 2006**



The first graph shows the use of invasive therapy at anytime during the CCU stay. This graph is limited to the AMI No STUp and Unstable Angina patients. Centres have progressively increased access to invasive therapy for their patients, but even higher rates are likely appropriate. The next graph shows 2006 year-to-date patients who received their PCI or transfer within 48 hours of CCU admission. Almost half of patients wait longer than 48 hours to have their intervention initiated. Although there has been progress, there is still much work to do. We should target both higher intervention rates and earlier intervention.

Invasive therapy is also used in patients with an acute coronary occlusion (STEMI). Angioplasty can be used to open the closed artery and then stenting prevents reocclusion in the artery opened with either angioplasty or thrombolytic therapy. Thrombolytic therapy can open arteries earlier in the care process but the arteries remain at risk for recurrent occlusion

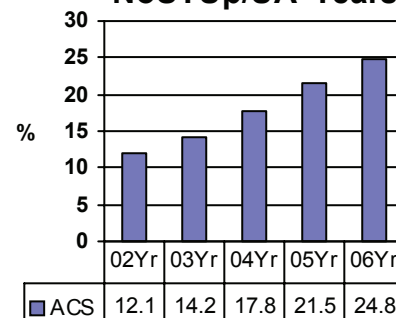
**Early Death Thrombolysis
NonPCI Hospitals Years**



events. These patients are the highest risk group for an occlusion event across the full spectrum of ACS patients. The third graph shows the increased use of early intervention following thrombolytic therapy. Trials comparing primary angioplasty with thrombolytic therapy have included recurrent infarction in a combined outcome. The increased use of early invasive therapy appears to be decreasing the threat of recurrent occlusion in thrombolysis patients and improving outcomes.

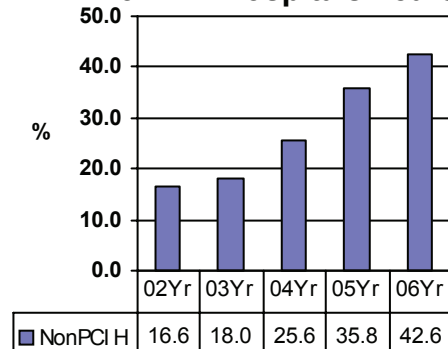
There has been excellent progress!

**Invasive Therapy
NoSTUp/UA Years**

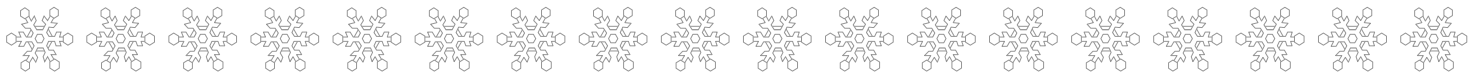


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**Early Intervention after TLysis
NonPCI Hospitals Years**



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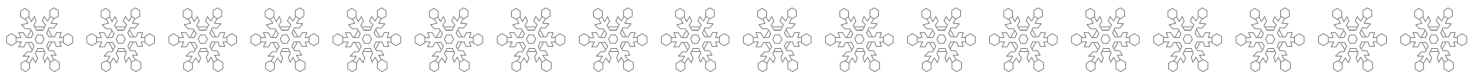


End of Year Matters

As December 31st falls on a Sunday this year, submission dates do not need to be adjusted for year end. The recorded weeks should proceed as normal (i.e. December 25—December 31 and January 1— January 7)

The Macstrak Project Office will be closed over the holidays (Dec. 25th to Jan. 2nd) but we will be checking our messages. We will answer your questions as quickly as possible.

There will be a mailout in early December. If you have not received your supplies by mid-December, please contact the Project Office to ensure that you do not run out of supplies during the holiday season.



Are you up-to-date?

End of year is the perfect time to make sure that all your contact information at the Macstrak Project Office is up-to-date. If your coordinator or chairperson has changed please let us know. As well, we are trying to get as many email addresses as possible so that we can email reminders and supply order forms. Let's aim to cut down our paper consumption in 2007 and let us know your email address so that we can add you to our address book.

A word of thanks to all our centres who make the Macstrak Project so successful year after year. Compliance in form completion is not always easy so we applaud all of you who do it so well. We welcome those centres who joined us in 2006. We trust that as you collect data and communicate the results to your centre, you will see the benefits of data at work in your hospital. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

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Important Dates

Please keep in mind the following deadlines for 4th quarter 2006:

December 4th—7th	Supply mailout
January 12th	All 4th quarter forms due at project office
January 30th	DCF deadline

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