**Supplementary Table S1**

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| Domain | Survey Question(s) | Survey Answers | Categorized Variable used for Analysis |
| Hospital/Patient Demographics | How many beds are in your acute care unit? (If more than one unit, provide number of non-ICU cardiac beds; semiprivate rooms should only be counted as multiple beds if >1 bed is routinely occupied). | Select 1 response: < 5 beds 5 to 10 beds 11-15 beds 15-20 beds 21-30 beds 31-40 beds >40 beds | Small/Medium: 0-20 beds (n=8)  Large: >20 beds (n=10) |
| Staffing | What percentage of patients are managed by APPs? | Select 1 response: <25% 26-50% 51-75% >76% Not applicable | Low coverage: <50% (n=6) Moderate coverage: 51-75% (n=6) High coverage: >76% (n=6) |
|  | With respect to ATTENDING coverage most week days, is there a separate attending for:   - Surgical patients? - Heart transplant/heart failure patients? - Lung transplant patients? - Post/pre cardiac catheterization patients? - Electrophysiology patients? - Pulmonary hypertension patients? | Select 1 response for each: Yes/No | Minimal subspecialty presence: 0-1 subspecialty attendings (n=4) Moderate subspecialty presence: 2-3 subspecialty attendings (n=7) Maximal subspecialty presence: 4-6 subspecialty attendings (n=7) |
|  | What is your typical nurse:patient ratio? | Select all that apply: Usually 2:1 Usually 3:1 Usually 4:1 Special circumstances 1:1 Special circumstances 2:1 Based on a nursing productivity model | Low: Usually 2:1 or 1:1 in special circumstances (n=4) High: All others (n=14) |
|  | Please estimate percent of acute care nurses cross-trained in the ICU | Select 1 response: < 25% 26 - 50% 51-75% >76% Our unit does not do cross training to the ICU | No: Our unit does not do cross training to the ICU (n=6)  Yes: <25%, 26-50%, 51-75%, or >75% (n=12) |
|  | Does your acute care unit have the following multidisciplinary staff members assigned to the unit:  - Vascular access team? - Clinical pharmacist? - Registered dietician? - Respiratory therapist? - Physical therapist? - Occupational therapist? - Speech language pathologist? - Case manager? - Social worker? - Chaplain? | Select 1 response for each: Yes - dedicated to the unit Yes - shared with other cardiac services Yes - shared with other units No | Minimal dedicated multidisciplinary staff: <4 (n=7) Moderate dedicated multidisciplinary staff: 4-6 (n=7) Maximal dedicated multidisciplinary staff: >6 (n=4) |
| Resources/  Therapies | - Do you use inotropic support? - Are inotropes titrated upwards? - Are inotropes weaned? - Is PGE (prostaglandin) administered? - Are antiarrhythmic intravenous infusions (e.g., esmolol, procainamide) administered? - Is hemodialysis used? - Is peritoneal dialysis used? - Are temporary pacer wires,with pacer-dependent rhythm used? - Is high flow nasal cannula initiated? - Are tracheostomies using home ventilator 24hr/day used? - Are intermittent dosed IV benzodiazepines used for acute sedation? - Are ventricular assist devices (VADs) used? | Select 1 response for each: Yes/No | 1 point each: use of prostaglandin, use of inotropes, inotrope titration (up or down), use of antiarrhythmics, dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis), temporary pacer wires with pacer-dependent rhythm, initiation of high-flow nasal cannula, tracheostomy with home ventilator, intermittent intravenous benzodiazepine use, ventricular assist device)  Minimal intensity: <4 (n=4) Moderate intensity: 4-6 (n=11) Maximal intensity: >6 (n=3) |
| Standard Care Practices | Does your institution have lesion-specific written surgical pathway protocols/guidelines for post-operative patients? | Select 1 response: Yes - we have a written policy Yes - we have a standard practice used 95% of the time, although not a written policy No - there is no standardization | Yes: Written policy or standard practice used >95% of the time (n=9) No: No standardization (n=9) |
| Transitions in Care | Does your institution have a written process for transfer of care ("hand-off") when a patient moves from the ICU to the acute care unit? | Select 1 response: Yes - we have a written policy Yes - we have a standard practice used 95% of the time, although not a written policy No - there is no standardization | Yes: Written policy or standard practice used >95% of the time (n=11) No: No standardization (n=7) |
| Discharge Practices | - Do you allow discharge on the same day of chest tube removal? - Do you allow discharge on the same day of temporary pacing wire removal? | Select 1 response for each: Yes/No | Yes: either/or both allowed (n=10) No: at least 1 not allowed (n=8) |
| Hospital Size | What was the total number of cardiac admissions to your acute care unit for the past calendar year? (total cardiac admissions; do not separate observation vs. full admission) | Free text answer |  |