

THE IMPORTANCE OF NURSE TRIAGE FOR PATIENTS WITH ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION (AMI) IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

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Abstract: Introduction: Triage performed by nurses in the Emergency Department plays a crucial role in the early recognition and appropriate management of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI). AMI is a medical emergency that requires rapid and effective intervention to minimize damage to the heart muscle and reduce associated morbidity and mortality. In this context, the role of nurses in triage is essential to quickly identify patients with suspected AMI, prioritizing their care and expediting the initiation of treatment. **Goal:** To analyze, based on the scientific literature, the importance of triage performed by nurses in the emergency sector for the adequate management of patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), aiming at reducing the time of care and increasing survival. **Methodology:** This is a descriptive bibliographic review research, constructed from materials published between 2019 and 2024. To select the texts, an online search of Latin American Literature was carried out in the SciELO, PubMed, Medline, Google Scholar databases. Ten publications that met the theme of the study, published in full, with full texts available, in Portuguese were considered. The keywords investigated were: Nursing; Triage and Acute Myocardial Infarction. **Results:** Triage performed by nurses in the initial care of patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in the emergency department plays a fundamental role in early identification and prioritization of care, contributing significantly to the quality of health care. **Final considerations:** The importance of triage performed by nurses in the treatment of patients with AMI goes beyond the early identification of the condition. It also contributes to the optimization of available resources, the reduction of waiting times and the prevention of complications. In addition, triage performed by nurses can contribute to the efficiency of the health system as a whole,

ensuring faster and more effective care for all patients.

Keywords: 1. Nursing; 2. Acute Myocardial Infarction; 3. Triage

INTRODUCTION

The triage performed by nurses in the Emergency Department plays a crucial role in the early recognition and adequate management of Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI). AMI is a medical emergency that requires rapid and effective intervention to minimize damage to the heart muscle and reduce associated morbidity and mortality. In this context, the role of nurses in triage is essential to quickly identify patients with suspected AMI, prioritizing their care and speeding up the start of treatment (Silva, et al., 2020).

The importance of triage performed by nurses in the Emergency Department is related to the need to establish an efficient approach to deal with patients with AMI considering the urgency and severity of this clinical condition. The nurse, as a health professional working on the front line of emergency care, plays a key role in identifying signs and symptoms suggestive of AMI, enabling the adoption of immediate measures to stabilize and treat the patient (Guilherme; Veríssimo & Silva, 2023).

It is important to emphasize that the constant training and updating of nurses are essential to ensure effective triage in the Emergency Department. Nurses must be familiar with AMI care protocols, as well as with the most recent evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. In addition, it is essential that nurses have effective communication skills to deal with emergencies and convey important information to other members of the health team (Silva, et al., 2022).

The triage performed by nurses in the initial care of patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) in the emergency department

plays a crucial role in early identification and prioritization of care. Nurses, as professionals trained to perform triage, are essential in the initial assessment of patients, identifying the signs and symptoms of AMI and quickly referring them for appropriate treatment. This is essential, as AMI is an emergency medical condition that requires immediate intervention to minimize damage and save lives (Guilherme; Veríssimo & Silva, 2023).

Furthermore, triage performed by nurses allows the identification of patients with more severe conditions who require priority care. By classifying patients according to the severity of their condition, nurses ensure that available resources are allocated appropriately, prioritizing those who most need urgent care. This helps to optimize the flow of patients in the emergency room, reducing waiting times and ensuring more efficient care (Silva, et al., 2020).

Another important aspect of triage performed by nurses is the contribution to the prevention of complications and the reduction of mortality. By quickly identifying patients with AMI, nurses can promptly initiate necessary interventions, such as the administration of thrombolytic drugs or the performance of angioplasty, which can reduce the size of the infarct and improve the patient's prognosis.

In summary, triage performed by nurses in the care of patients with AMI in the emergency department plays a crucial role in early identification, prioritization of care and improvement of the quality of health care (Oliveira et al., 2023).

The research problem lies in the importance and impact of triage performed by nurses in the Emergency Department for patients with AMI. The effectiveness of this process in reducing the time of care and initiating appropriate treatment is essential to improve clinical outcomes and survival

of these patients. However, there are gaps in knowledge about the effectiveness of triage performed by nurses, as well as about the factors that can influence its implementation and results.

In this context, the general objective of this study is to analyze the importance of triage performed by nurses in the Emergency Department for patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), aiming at reducing the time of care and increasing survival. This objective seeks to investigate how the role of nurses in triage can positively impact the management of these patients, contributing to the optimization of resources and improving the quality of care.

The relevance of this study is to highlight the importance of nurses in AMI triage, demonstrating their ability to identify suspected cases early and refer them appropriately for specialized treatment. Understanding the role of nurses in this process is essential to value their performance in the health team and to promote the qualification of emergency services.

In addition, the results of this research can support the implementation of strategies that aim to improve AMI triage, contributing to the improvement of the care provided to these patients.

To analyze, based on scientific literature, the importance of triage performed by nurses in the emergency sector for the adequate management of patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), aiming at reducing the time of care and increasing survival.

This was a descriptive bibliographic review research, conducted electronically, seeking to identify the impacts of smoking on health professionals, specifically nurses. The research was carried out from April to June 2024.

To prepare this research, the theme was identified and the hypothesis of this research

was selected. Then, inclusion and exclusion criteria for publications were established, defining the information to be extracted for the present study, such as the name of the publication, type, location and year of the study, objective and results for the knowledge review.

In the construction of this research, a bibliographic survey was used through scientific articles, monographs, journals and official publications of regulatory bodies, in the databases of SciELO, PubMed, Medline, Google Scholar, within the development, considering the keywords: Nursing; Triage and Acute Myocardial Infarction. With a return of 1208 articles, of which 896 were disregarded due to the publication period criterion, 210 were disregarded because they did not fit within the theme, 102 articles were found and considered within the theme and 10 articles were used. After analyzing the results returned, regarding the selection criteria, publications that met the theme of the study, published in full, with full texts available, were considered, being scientific articles or theses, in Portuguese, published between 2019 and 2024, guiding the research. The exclusion criteria adopted were the departure from the theme and duplicate articles.

The following steps were taken to prepare this research: identification of the topic and selection of the research hypothesis, establishment of inclusion and exclusion criteria for publications, definition of the information to be extracted from the studies, evaluation and interpretation of the included studies, and presentation of the review carried out, for example: the synthesis of knowledge.

The following guiding question was developed for the research: What is the importance of triage performed by nurses in the initial care of patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in the emergency department?

The presentation of the results and discussion of the data obtained was carried out in a descriptive manner of the literature review, enabling a positive impact on Nursing. Triage related to patients with Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) in the emergency department is a critical and complex process that aims to quickly identify patients who present this serious condition. Nurses play a fundamental role in this process, as they are responsible for initially assessing the patient, identifying the signs and symptoms of AMI, and prioritizing care based on the severity of the condition (Silva et al., 2020).

MI-related screening involves the application of specific protocols that aim to identify warning signs, such as intense and prolonged chest pain, associated with symptoms such as sweating, nausea, vomiting, and shortness of breath. In addition, nurses also assess the patient's risk factors, such as advanced age, smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes mellitus, and family history of cardiovascular disease, which may increase the suspicion of AMI (Barbosa et al., 2024).

Once a patient with suspected AMI has been identified, nurses must immediately call the medical team and initiate emergency procedures, such as administering oxygen, cardiac monitoring, and venous access. In addition, nurses are also responsible for ensuring that patients receive adequate care throughout the process, including preparation for additional tests, such as an electrocardiogram, which is essential to confirm the diagnosis of AMI (Oliveira et al., 2023).

Triage related to AMI is not limited to identifying the condition, but also includes assessing the severity of the condition and determining the best course of action. Nurses play a crucial role in this process, as their rapid intervention can make the difference between life and death for the patient. In addition,

nurses are also responsible for providing emotional support to the patient and family, helping them deal with the emotional impact of this serious condition (Martins et al., 2024).

Triage performed by nurses in the initial care of patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in the emergency department plays a fundamental role in early identification and prioritization of care, contributing significantly to the quality of health care (Silva et al., 2022). The nurse, as a professional trained to perform triage, is essential in the initial assessment of the patient, identifying the signs and symptoms of AMI and quickly referring the patient for appropriate treatment. This is crucial, as AMI is an emergency medical condition that requires immediate intervention to minimize damage and save lives (Barbosa et al., 2024).

Nurse triage also allows for the identification of patients with more severe conditions who require priority care. By classifying patients according to the severity of their condition, nurses ensure that available resources are allocated appropriately, prioritizing those who most need urgent care. This helps to optimize patient flow in the emergency room, reducing waiting times and ensuring more efficient care (Silva et al., 2020).

In addition, nurse triage when caring for patients with AMI in the emergency department can also contribute to preventing complications and reducing mortality (Soares et al., 2020). By quickly identifying patients with AMI, nurses can promptly initiate necessary interventions, such as administering thrombolytic drugs or performing angioplasty, which can reduce the size of the infarct and improve the patient's prognosis (Martins et al., 2024).

Nurse triage is also important from a patient safety perspective. By assessing patients quickly and accurately, nurses can identify those with conditions that require immediate

care, such as hemodynamic instability or serious cardiac arrhythmias, ensuring that they receive appropriate treatment without delay (Oliveira et al., 2023).

In addition, triage performed by nurses can contribute to the efficiency of the health system as a whole. By identifying patients who require urgent care and prioritizing them appropriately, nurses help to reduce the burden on emergency services, allowing resources to be used more efficiently and ensuring faster and more effective care for all patients (Soares et al., 2020).

Another important aspect of triage performed by nurses is the educational role that it can play. During triage, nurses can provide information and guidance to patients about the importance of seeking immediate medical help in the event of symptoms of AMI, helping to raise awareness and promote prevention of cardiovascular disease (Redação; Nicolau, 2021).

Furthermore, triage performed by nurses when caring for patients with AMI in the emergency department can also contribute to improving the quality of health care (Gritti et al., 2022). By quickly identifying patients with AMI and promptly initiating appropriate treatment, nurses help ensure that patients receive the necessary care at the right time, which can improve clinical outcomes and reduce complications (Coelho; Andrade, 2020).

In summary, triage performed by nurses when caring for patients with AMI in the emergency department plays a crucial role in early identification, prioritization of care, and improvement of the quality of health care. Nurses, as professionals trained to perform triage, are essential to ensure that patients with AMI receive the appropriate treatment at the right time, which can save lives and improve clinical outcomes.

CONCLUSION

Nurse triage in the emergency department when caring for patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) is essential for early identification, prioritization of care and improvement of the quality of health care. Nurses play a crucial role in this process, ensuring that patients with AMI receive the appropriate treatment at the right time, which can save lives and improve clinical outcomes.

The importance of nurse triage in the treatment of patients with AMI goes beyond early identification of the condition. It also contributes to the optimization of available resources, reduction of waiting times and prevention of complications. In addition, nurse triage can contribute to the efficiency of the health system as a whole, ensuring faster and more effective care for all patients.

It is important to emphasize that the triage performed by nurses in the care of patients with AMI is not limited to physical assessment, but also includes the provision of appropriate nursing care and guidance to the patient and family about the disease and treatment. This comprehensive approach contributes to improving the quality of care and promoting health. In addition, triage performed by nurses can positively influence the patient's experience and their perception of the quality of care. Rapid and efficient initial care, provided by appropriate triage, can reduce patient anxiety and discomfort, increasing their confidence in the health team and the health system as a whole. This can result in greater adherence to treatment and better long-term clinical outcomes. Another important point is the role of nurse triage in health education and promotion. During the triage process, nurses can provide educational information about cardiovascular risk factors, healthy lifestyle, and warning signs of AMI. This educational approach can help patients adopt healthier behaviors and seek medical

help more quickly if they have symptoms of AMI, contributing to the prevention and control of the disease.

Finally, triage performed by nurses in the care of patients with AMI can also be an opportunity for data collection and research. Data obtained during triage, such as the signs and symptoms presented by patients, the treatments performed and the results obtained, can be used to evaluate the quality of care provided, identify areas for improvement and contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge in the area of cardiovascular health.

Triage performed by nurses in the care of patients with AMI in the emergency department plays a crucial role in early identification, prioritization of care, improvement of the quality of care, education and research. It is essential that nurses are recognized and valued for their contribution to the care of patients with AMI and that they receive the necessary support to perform their functions effectively and safely.

In summary, nurse triage in the care of patients with AMI in the emergency department plays a crucial role in early identification, prioritization of care, and improvement of the quality of health care. It is essential that nurses are recognized and valued for their contribution to the care and safety of patients with AMI, and that they are supported by policies and practices that promote excellence in nursing in the emergency department.

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