

New study shows access to quality health care, allowing more people to live longer with chronic diseases, translates to a higher COVID-19 death rate.

Overview

New Heart & Stroke-led research examines direct impact of COVID-19 on people living with heart conditions and stroke and forecasts potential implications on Canadian healthcare resources.

Methodology



Examined global epidemiological data from 63 countries and Canadian hospital data on number of procedures performed for heart conditions and stroke.

Key findings



MDMIFDDVFODSEHHVSVSH□

each month in Ontario & in the January

297 coronary artery bypass grafts

703 percutaneous coronary interventions

252 valve surgeries



In countries like Canada with accessible health care and a higher proportion of people living with heart conditions and stroke, the COVID-19 death rate is higher than in countries with fewer healthcare services.



Older people are more at risk of dying from COVID-19, and those with heart conditions or previous stroke are at even greater risk of dying from COVID-19.



For every 1% increase in a country's size of the population with heart conditions and stroke, the death rate from COVID-19

For every 1% increase in a country's size of the population 65+ years, the death rate from COVID-19

↑ **19%**

↑ **9%**

Importance

This Heart & Stroke analysis highlights the risk posed by COVID-19 on people with heart conditions and stroke in Canada.



COVID-19 is seriously disrupting access to essential health care in Canada, including thousands of delayed procedures.

This study provides valuable information for healthcare planners to guide reactive and proactive measures in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, including the planning for health system recovery and triaging burgeoning wait lists.