Cardiac Arrest: The Facts

- An estimated 400,000 out of hospital cardiac arrest occur each year in the United States and Canada combined.
- Affects all and leads to significant mortality and morbidity.
- Only 1 in 10 people survive out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.
- Only 1 in 4 people survive in-hospital cardiac arrest in the United States. In Canada, without a National registry, stats are unknown.

Stages of Cardiac Arrest Survival

- Prevention
- Early Identification
- Resuscitation
- Post–Cardiac Arrest Care
- Recovery*

*New and crucial stage

Approaches to Improving Resuscitation

Community

- Rapid cardiac arrest recognition
- Mobile phone technologies to summon first responders
- Enhanced role for emergency telecommunicators
- Widespread CPR training
- Public access defibrillation

Hospital

- Recognize and stabilize patients at risk of cardiac arrest
- Neuroprognostication ≥72 hours after rewarming
- Performance measurement
- Clinical debriefing
- Quality improvement strategies

Approach to Continuous Quality Improvement

Registries provide information that can be used to identify opportunities to improve the quality of care.

- Data collection on resuscitations
- Evaluation of performance and outcomes
- Recommendations

There have been modest improvements in cardiac arrest survival, but there is still considerable work to be done to improve survival from cardiac arrest.