

**THROMBOLYTIC THERAPY IN ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION -
THE SPECIFIC BARRIERS RELATED TO 'TIME' DELAYS IN THE
DOOR TO NEEDLE TIME AT THE AL AIN HOSPITAL**

by

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submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for

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SUPERVISOR: DR SP HATTINGH

JOINT SUPERVISOR: MS T HEYNS

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DECLARATION

I declare that **THROMBOLYTIC THERAPY IN ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION - THE SPECIFIC BARRIERS RELATED TO 'TIME' DELAYS IN THE DOOR TO NEEDLE TIME AT THE AL AIN HOSPITAL** is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

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SIGNATURE
(MRS V PILLAY)

.....
DATE

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ABSTRACT

This study addresses the specific barriers related to time delays in the treatment of patients who suffered acute myocardial infarction at the Al Ain Hospital accident and emergency unit in the United Arab Emirates.

A comprehensive background of the UAE is given for the benefit of students who have limited access to the background and challenges facing medical and nursing personnel in providing thrombolytic therapy to patients who suffered from acute myocardial infarction. The study will contribute to the continuous quality management and improvement of overall nursing and medical care of the AMI patient who is eligible for thrombolysis.

An extensive literature review addresses the clinical manifestations and treatment of the patient suffering from AMI as well as the adverse effects of time delays in treatment during the acute phase of the disease.

The researcher selected a quantitative, non-experimental descriptive and retrospective study. Data was collected by a structured instrument to gather the desired responses from the files of 457 selected patients admitted to the Al Ain Hospital.

This study emphasizes the need to improve patient care by all health care personnel in an accident and emergency unit to prevent the delays in treatment in life threatening conditions such as myocardial infarction ensuring optimal and prompt time to thrombolysis. The improvement of awareness and commitment by health care providers such as nurses, doctors and ambulance personnel, can be achieved through education and training, commitment and dedication, absolute cooperation, collaboration and constant update on performance. Regular audits are essential with regard to door-to-needle time and performance of all health care providers. This study ultimately show that time constrains in attending to patients presenting with myocardial infarction should be addressed in utmost urgency.

KEY CONCEPTS

Thrombolytic therapy, thrombolysis, myocardial infarction, "door-to-needle time", National Heart Attack Alert Program, United Arab Emirates, time delays in myocardial infarction.

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to the doctors and nurses in the UAE and Middle East region who devote their time and energy in embracing vulnerable communities.

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