

## Division of Post-Operative Consults between Cardiology and GIM at KGH

*Background: The division of GIM has developed an interest and expertise in the perioperative management of patients with multiple internal medicine issues. GIM now runs pre-operative clinics for patients with complex internal medicine problems and hopes to become more involved in the inpatient post operative management of these patients. The department of Anaesthesia has requested that GIM and Cardiology develop guidelines for which service should be consulted for various post-operative cardiology issues.*

*Purpose: to provide clear guidelines for Anesthesia and Surgery regarding when Cardiology vs GIM should be consulted.*

### **GIM should be consulted for the following post-operative problems:**

- Hemodynamically stable new atrial fibrillation
- Hemodynamically stable fast atrial fibrillation
- Hypertensive crisis (urgency or emergency)
- Sinus tachycardia of unknown significance
- Elevated troponin of unknown significance, without any features of cardiac ischemia (eg chest pain, ischemic EKG changes)
- Intra-op or post-op EKG changes of unknown significance
- Chest pain or SOB NYD, without any features of cardiac ischemia
- CHF
- Optimization of cardiac medications, anticoagulants, antiplatelet agents

### **Cardiology should be consulted for the following post-operative problems:**

- Pre-existing severe cardiac dysfunction (eg severe AS, MR, LV dysfunction) with new symptoms suspected to be cardiac in origin
- ACS: STEMI, NSTEMI, Unstable Angina
  - *NB: Please call the MI pager for STEMI*
- Cardiogenic shock
- Hemodynamically unstable atrial fibrillation (hypotensive)
- Hemodynamically unstable bradycardias
- Heart block that may require pacemaker
- Ventricular arrhythmias (eg VT)
- Pericardial effusions that may require drainage
- Device related issues (eg Pacemaker, ICD)
  - *NB: Please call EP directly*

N.B.: It is the understanding that GIM will consult Cardiology, either in-patient or out-patient, if investigations reveal a diagnosis that would be best managed by their service.