Title: Implications for ultra-sensitive troponin assays: an investigation of cardiovascular resource utilization.

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Research Project Description: Nearly a million myocardial infarctions (MI) occur every year in the US. Even more commonly, patients are admitted to the hospital for other conditions such as heart failure, atrial fibrillation, or pneumonia and have elevated cardiac biomarkers, such as troponin, but are not suffering a MI. In countries that have adopted new ultra-sensitive troponin assays, the demand for cardiovascular services: consults, echocardiograms, stress tests, and coronary angiography, increased dramatically. At present, we do not know what the demand for these services and need to investigate demand before ultra-sensitive troponin assays arrive. This project will investigate the demand for cardiovascular services among patients who had troponin ordered during their hospitalization. Students will assist in data gathering and data entry with the expectation of presenting the research and participating in publishing a manuscript on the results.

Selected Readings: