American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline program has developed the PreAct-STEMI Project. It provides EMS agencies and hospitals tools to help improve the flow of patients from the field to cardiac catheterization lab, to include appropriate bypass of the ED for selected patients.

The clinical objective is reducing the time to coronary artery reperfusion while appropriately balancing overcall and undercall rates for cardiac cath lab activation.

Pinellas County, FL and Los Angeles County, CA are the two national pilot test sites for this program.

In February 2016, the pilot test on suspected STEMI cases in Pinellas County began with four organizations – suspected STEMI cases seen by two fire rescue agencies (Lealman and Pinellas Park) being transported by Sunstar to one STEMI receiving center hospital (Northside). Effective January 4, 2017, the PreAct-STEMI program will be expanded into the county-wide protocol for all Pinellas County EMS agencies and STEMI receiving hospitals.

The national American Heart Association staff from Mission: Lifeline and Pinellas County OMD staff will be reviewing prehospital and hospital data for each case. The PreAct program was submitted for Institutional review board through the Chesapeake IRB and was granted a waiver from IRB oversight.

How are hospitals affected?
STEMI receiving hospitals will be notified by EMS when a STEMI patient meets PreAct criteria. This will help hospitals decide which patients are most appropriate to be routed directly to the cath lab, receive an expedited exam in the ED, or be admitted to the ED. AHA staff will request de-identified patient information (primarily times) for each PreAct case via an on-line questionnaire, which the AHA will then match up to the patient’s EMS report. Here is the link for the hospital data collection form: Hospital Data Collection Form

For more information, please email: missionlifeline@heart.org