Establish an Aortic Consortium within BUMC-T system
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**Background**

**Background:** It has been shown that development of a Comprehensive Aortic Center with implementation of strategic workflow systems can result in a significant increase in elective and emergent aortic volume[1]. Studies have shown that outcomes are better when aortic procedures are performed by high-volume surgeons in high-volume centers, making the argument of creating aortic centers compelling.[2,3]

**Current status:** BUMC-T is a safety-net hospital and the only level I trauma center in Tucson with ~ 20 thoracic aortic emergencies and 50 AAA interventions per year.

**Gap:** Lack of strategic coordination and utilization of resources for aortic disease management including transfers, ICU cares, and clinical protocols. Lack of a research collaboration to better understand and treat aortic pathology.

**Objectives**

**Short-term:** Start a multidisciplinary aortic program at BUMC-T.

**Long-term:** Provide comprehensive continuum of care for complex aortic disease with complimentary research collaboration. Increase institutional reputation, community awareness, and patient satisfaction.

**References**


**Next Step**

**Team:** recruiting a nurse navigator, feasibility analysis completed

**Outreach:** social media and traditional promotion for aortic disease awareness and prevention.

**Research:** start a physician-modified endograft program (PMEG). Increase aortic research.

**Metrics:** increase aortic volume by 40% and 1-2 aortic publications in 3 years. Increase patient satisfaction score and reduce duplicate imaging.

**Results**

**Team:** Consensus reached for an aortic team, including vascular surgeons, CT surgeons, cardiologists, radiologists, and medical geneticist.

**Education:** Bimonthly aortic conference has been ongoing for nearly a year.

**Clinic:** A patient-centered multidisciplinary aortic clinic for patient to go “one-stop shop” is due to “go-live” in September 2021.

**Research:** A multi-institutional project analyzing outcomes of aortic emergencies