



## **2007 Cardiac Summit Outcomes**

One major outcome of the Summit was documenting the gaps in knowledge and assigning teams of researchers to begin work in these areas. The Summit team ranked the following cardiac-specific aims in order of their importance and urgency to initiate:

1. Retrospective and prospective evaluation of Mortality and Morbidity in FA patients. Why do FA patients die, and what are the associated complications?
2. Retrospective analysis of cardiovascular biomarkers in FA. This will involve retrieving echocardiograms and EKGs on FA patients for the past 10 years and correlating with patient outcomes. This data is greatly needed to understand the cardiac impact of FA, and generate prognostic markers, such as the importance of T wave abnormalities (EKG changes), and echo-cardiographic markers of diastolic dysfunction.
3. Initiate longitudinal studies of cardiovascular disease. All patients with the diagnosis of FA need to enter a natural history study that follows specific cardiovascular evaluations.
4. Establish a core cardiac lab for the purpose of setting standards in cardiac measurements across multiple sites and imaging platforms. This lab will be essential to maintain high quality data from different sites.
5. Evaluate how cardiomyopathy impact the quality of life for FA patients.
6. Implement basic and translational studies focused on the heart.