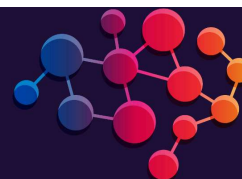


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**East Midlands Integrated
Stroke Delivery Network**



Issue 18, December 2024

**"YOU DONT HAVE TO SEE THE WHOLE
STAIRCASE, JUST TAKE THE FIRST STEP"**

MARTIN LUTHER KING

SEASON GREETINGS!



We hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and wishing you all a Happy New Year. We would like to say a huge thank you for your engagement with the ISDN through 2024 and we look forward to seeing you in 2025!

UK STROKE FORUM 2024



December saw this year's fantastic UK Stroke Forum in Liverpool, the largest multidisciplinary stroke event in the UK. The East Midlands ISDN was very pleased to attend, taking the opportunity to engage with national experts, share regional innovations and explore the latest research. In the coming weeks, we shall be asking teams if there was anything you saw (or missed) at UKSF which you would like further information on. If you would like to feedback any thoughts or requests, please email us at nuhnt.eastmidlandsisdn@nhs.net

RESOURCES FOR STROKE PREVENTION DAY AWARENESS EVENTS



As you may be aware, it is Stroke Prevention Day on 30th January 2025. To support your efforts in promoting Stroke Prevention Day, we're providing a range of materials to help deliver prevention awareness events.

The promotional pack includes:

- Health information leaflets on stroke prevention, covering topics such as High Blood Pressure and Stroke, Cholesterol and Stroke, Smoking and Stroke, Diabetes and Stroke, and more.
- Promotional items such as balloons, tablecloths, banners, pens, and other items.

If you would like to order a pack to support your event, please email engagementteammidlands@stroke.org.uk

INTRODUCTION FROM THE NEW EMAS CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT MANAGER

I joined the ambulance service in 2004 and after qualifying as a paramedic in 2006 I worked on ambulances, FRVs, and the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance. In 2017 I moved into education, first at the University of Hull then the University of Lincoln, teaching mainly on undergraduate paramedic programmes but also postgraduate, post-registration, courses across the health spectrum. For much of this time I also practiced as a Critical Care Paramedic with LIVES on their Community Emergency Medicine Service. With this role I hope to reconnect to my roots as a patient-focused clinician, but to bring to bear my experience in practice and academia to influence clinicians' decisions and bring care up to the highest standard possible.



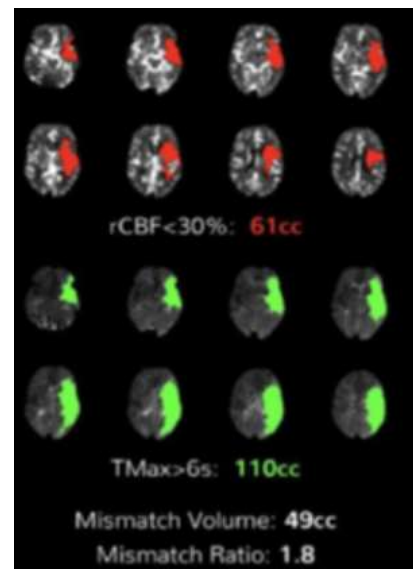
CT PERFUSION SCANNING IMPROVES STROKE CARE IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

The East Midlands has reached another significant milestone in stroke care with the expansion of CT Perfusion (CTP) scanning. This advanced imaging technology, recommended by the National Stroke Guidelines (2023), enables clinicians to identify salvageable brain tissue in stroke patients, extending the treatment window for life-saving interventions such as IV thrombolysis and mechanical thrombectomy, of particular importance in wakeup strokes with unknown onset time.

CT scanners across the East Midlands have been upgraded to support CTP imaging, with governance arrangements securely in place. This progress follows months of collaborative work between the East Midlands Integrated Stroke Delivery Network (ISDN), local stroke leads, and neuro-radiologists. Work continues, focusing on aligning protocols across the region.

Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) successfully went live with CTP scanning, during working hours, in December. This marks the first step in a phased rollout, with all other Trusts in the region working towards introducing CTP services by early 2025.

This initiative addresses a long-standing gap in the region's stroke care. Previously, only Chesterfield Royal Hospital offered CTP scanning, leaving the majority of East Midlands patients without access to this critical diagnostic tool. A retrospective review at NUH revealed that up to 100 patients per year could have benefited from extended treatment windows if CTP had been available.



With the introduction of CTP scanning, the East Midlands is taking a transformative step in reducing health inequalities, enhancing patient outcomes, and ensuring compliance with national guidelines. This project promises to bring a new access to treatment to stroke patients across the region, offering a better chance of recovery and improved quality of life.

CLEAR PROJECT



A CLEAR transformation project has been commissioned to review and enhance stroke care in Lincolnshire – focusing specifically on optimising pathways across hospital and community services to ensure patients receive the right care in the right setting.

The project aims to support Lincolnshire to become an exemplar for improved stroke care and to share best practice across England to accelerate the transformation of stroke services.

The Clinically Led Workforce and Activity Redesign (CLEAR) team will work closely with clinicians and managers from Lincolnshire ICB and United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) to examine the current stroke pathways, address workforce challenges and identify ways to reduce hospital length of stay. Their work will focus on enhancing community-based care - including rehabilitation services and streamlining discharge processes, while improving patient outcomes and overall service efficiency.

The project will include the development of a skills matrix and workforce toolkit that will support optimisation of the workforce, including upskilling staff and cutting agency costs - and implementation of new models of care. It will culminate in a set of practical and financially viable recommendations for improvement – and will include further support to rollout a number of 'quick wins' to enable transformation at pace.

The CLEAR programme began in 2019 with six pilot projects focused on transformation in urgent and emergency care (UEC). Since then, it has delivered 75 CLEAR projects with many more underway across NHS priority areas.

STROKE NURSE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



National Community of Practice for stroke nurses is on the 21st Jan 2025 at 1pm, Jo Stevens the chair of the National Stroke Nurse Forum is coming to talk and plan to continue the discussion on workforce.

To join the CoP please can you email Claire Gilchrist (claire.gilchrist@nhs.net) and she will send the invite to you.

BIASP WEBINARS

STROKE FORUM

BIASP hosts engaging webinars through our Virtual Learning Hub, offering the latest in stroke care, research, and rehabilitation. Designed for healthcare professionals, caregivers, and anyone impacted by stroke, these sessions provide valuable knowledge and practical tools to make a difference.

[Discover upcoming webinars: BIASP Virtual Learning Hub](#)

SSNAP RESULTS JUL-SEP 2024



Latest SSNAP national and regional results now available for July-September 2024

The latest SSNAP National ('all teams') and Regional results for July-September 2024 are now available to all clinical users. Please note that you must be logged in to access all these results.

Next Issue

World Stroke Day | CLEAR project | and more!



If you would like to share the fabulous work done by your teams across East Midlands or have a story, we would love to hear from you!

Working in partnership with



If your teams don't regularly access email, please share this email. Please don't share outside of the organisation.

For more information please contact us at:
EastmidlandsISDN@nhs.net