

East Midlands Integrated
Stroke Delivery Network



Issue 16, October 2024

***"When you hand good people
possibility, they do great
things"***

Biz Stone

EAST MIDLANDS STROKE REHABILITATION CONFERENCE 2025

East Midlands Integrated
Stroke Delivery Network

SAVE THE DATE

East Midlands Rehabilitation Conference

2nd April 2025



See you there!

TRENT CONFERENCE CENTRE

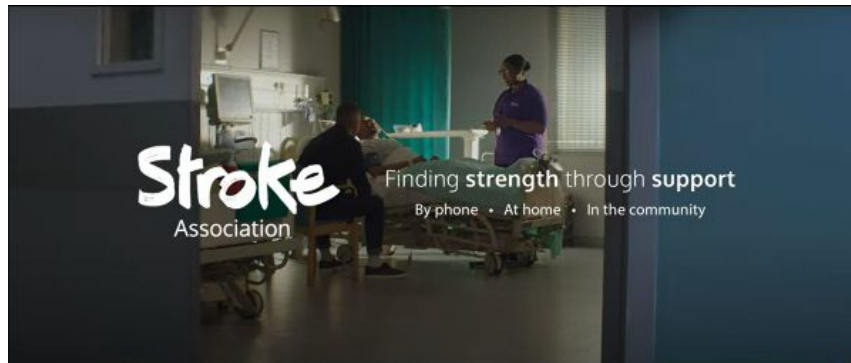
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We are excited to announce our second annual Stroke Rehabilitation Conference.

The event will take place on 2nd April 2025, returning to the Trent Conference Centre in Nottingham.

Full details of the agenda will be finalised and circulated in the coming weeks, along with details on how to book tickets. Likely topics will include Avoiding Clinician Burnout, A Visual Screening / Assessment Tool as well as Young Strokes, amongst others.

STROKE ASSOCIATION TV ADVERT & CAMPAIGN



The new TV advert was inspired by real stroke survivor stories and informed by research undertaken with people affected by stroke.

Stroke survivors told Stroke Association themselves how important it is to them that we reflect the reality of stroke.

The storyline concentrates on the immediate period after a stroke, featuring three different families in a hospital setting beside their loved ones who have had a stroke and are just discovering the devastating impacts.

It features stroke survivors of different ages, each with different impacts of stroke. These were chosen to give viewers an understanding that stroke doesn't just happen to older people and that everyone's experience of stroke is different.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Fxnew5vLPI>

THROMBOLYSIS IN ACUTE STROKE CARE (TASC)

Last year, we were excited to learn that United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust Lincoln General Hospital had been included in the first cohort of Stroke Units to take part in NHS Elect's TASC programme. As a result, they have already seen an increase in their thrombolysis rate, as well as a more efficient pathway with reduced "Door to needle" times as a result.

Following the successes seen amongst the first Trusts participating in TASC, NHS Elect have been asked to deliver this programme to a further 12 acute stroke units across the country and bids were invited from all remaining Trusts.



We are thrilled that Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (NUH), University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust (UHDB) and Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) have been successful in their bids and have been accepted into this second cohort. Initial visits are taking place to each of these units during the October to explain the process and begin understanding the opportunities this can bring.

TASC has been set up with the aim of increasing the number of suitable patients who receive thrombolysis in the event of an acute ischaemic stroke, by reviewing the

decision-making process in the unit compared with other units achieving significantly higher thrombolysis rates. It looks at the hyperacute stroke pathway in a holistic manner to identify other barriers to timely thrombolysis decisions. There is significant research that suggests early treatment with intravenous thrombolysis can significantly reduce the disabling effect of an acute stroke.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE RESEARCH (NIHR)



The East Midlands ISDN is in talks with the NIHR to explore potential new ways of using technology, working to improve stroke care and deliver rehabilitation. Examples of this include wireless, self-adhesive heart monitors to detect heart arrhythmias to avoid lengthy cardiac monitoring referral waiting times, or the use of Virtual Reality in neurorehabilitation therapy.

The NIHR helps turn discoveries into new or improved treatments, diagnostics, medical technologies or services. It provides those working in the NHS, public health and social care with the evidence they need to better support patients, carers and the public, as well as potential funding streams to support implementation.

We will share details with teams in the coming weeks.

RCR STATEMENT ON CEREBRAL PERFUSION CT REQUESTING AND REPORTING FOR RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENTS

The RCR statement in July this year RCR statement on cerebral perfusion CT requesting and reporting for Radiology departments | The Royal College of Radiologists was issued following a request from stroke clinicians who were finding the formal timely reporting of CTP's

a hindrance to accessing image acquisition and was discussed at length with the national Thrombectomy Implementation Group with consensus agreed.



It encourages individual organisations, where an immediate radiology report is not available, to delegate the interpretation of CTP to the requesting clinician, providing they are competent and document their interpretation in the medical notes – whether the scan is reported at a later stage is a matter for the organisation and not mandatory; precedence for this is wide-spread in the NHS, e.g. interpretation of pain CXR radiographs.

It is advised that ISDNs work with ASCs and CSCs to ensure an educational programme is available to requesting stroke clinicians to achieve competency in all image series acquisitions that require time critical interpretation to aid immediate clinical decision making.

NATIONAL GENETIC TESTING TO GUIDE CLOPIDOGREL USE AFTER ISCHAEMIC STROKE OR TRANSIENT ISCHAEMIC ATTACK

Genetic testing in patients who have had a stroke can be an effective tool in assessing whether Clopidogrel is an appropriate treatment to prevent further strokes. This testing is not currently available routinely in the NHS. Following the publication of NICE guidance DG59, we will be piloting genetic testing within stroke services in select sites across England. These sites are St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, and Salford Royal Hospital. This will enable us to assess how routine testing could be rolled out at scale to all patients who

NICE

National Institute
for Health and
Care Excellence

experience a stroke where Clopidogrel use is being considered. The pilot will enable us to design and refine this new genetic testing service, before it is rolled out across the NHS.

The pilot will be led by the NHS Pharmacogenomics and Medicines Optimisation Network of Excellence, working in collaboration with the chosen sites, and supported by NHS

England's Stroke Programme and Genomics Unit. The pilot will run from October 2024 to April 2025 and will produce an implementation guide for providers and information to support future commissioning decisions.

NICE will notify stakeholders when supporting information on implementation is available, as highlighted on their website. To further enable future implementation, NHS England will also be supporting a broader focus on relevant tools and resources, informed by the findings of the pilot, such as appropriate education and training.

NHS staff working in stroke units, pharmacy and genomics are encouraged to join a webinar on 7th November at 1-2pm, hosted by the NHS Pharmacogenomics and Medicines Optimisation Network of Excellence and supported by members of NHSE's Stroke Programme and Genomics Unit. This webinar will provide more detail on the pilot and plans, and an opportunity ask questions.

If you would like to receive an invitation to this webinar, please submit your contact details to the Network of Excellence via this form <https://bit.ly/CLoPid24>

AHP APPRECIATION AWARDS



Huge congratulations to the South Nottingham Community Team who were awarded AHP Team of the Year in the 2024 AHP appreciation awards

WORLD STROKE DAY



We would love to share what you are working on to improve public awareness and understanding of stroke with a focus on stroke prevention, symptom awareness and the needs of stroke survivors.

TENECTAPLASE



BIASP have now provided a consensus document to support colleagues in their decision making in the use of Tenecteplase, which can be found here: <https://biasp.org/clinical-guidance/standards/>

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:
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