Scottish Stroke Improvement Programme

2016 National Report

Publication Date – 12 July 2016

About this release

The Scottish Stroke Improvement Programme 2016 National Report includes data, from the Scottish Stroke Care Audit, describing the quality of stroke care in each acute hospital, grouped by Health Board, during 2015, measuring each hospital against Scottish Stroke Care Standards (2013).

Main Points

The four key inpatient Scottish Stroke Care Standards and the performance in Scotland against these standards are detailed in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage admitted to a Stroke Unit within 1 day of admission.</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage with swallow screen on day of admission.</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage with brain scan within 24 hours of admission.</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of ischaemic stroke patients given aspirin within 1 day of admission.</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The SSCA monitors performance against a Stroke Care Bundle. The current bundle consists of the four inpatient standards noted above, i.e. timely Stroke Unit admission, swallow screen, brain imaging and aspirin administration. This Stroke Care Bundle was included in the 2015-16 Health Board Local Delivery Plans and trajectories for improvement were set locally.

The proportion of individuals, admitted to hospital with a confirmed diagnosis of stroke, receiving the appropriate bundle increased from 62% in 2014 to 64% in 2015. The wide variation between Health Boards suggests that there is still large potential for improvements in ‘bundle performance’.
Further Scottish Stroke Care Standards relating to attendance at specialist stroke/TIA clinic, thrombolysis and carotid intervention are also monitored by the SSCA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage seen at specialist stroke/TIA clinic within 4 days of receipt of referral. (Day of receipt = day 0)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage receiving (thrombolysis) bolus within one hour of arrival at hospital.</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage undergoing carotid endarterectomy for symptomatic carotid stenosis within 14 days of the event that first led to seeking medical assistance.</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Background**

The SSCA monitors the quality of care provided by the hospitals in all Health Boards by collating data collected by the stroke Managed Clinical Networks (MCNs). These data are used by the Scottish Government to monitor progress against the Scottish Stroke Care Standards (2013) and the Scottish Stroke Improvement Plan (2014).

Health Boards are expected to identify aspects of their stroke services which do not meet the Scottish Standards and to work with their stroke MCNs to improve their standards of care locally.

**Contacts**

If you have any further questions about this publication, you can contact the team:

**Professor Martin Dennis**  
SSCA Clinical Lead  
martin.dennis@ed.ac.uk

**Mорanne MacGillivray**  
National Clinical Coordinator  
moranne.macgillivray@nhs.net  
0131 275 7615

**David Murphy**  
Senior Information Analyst  
david.murphy2@nhs.net  
0131 275 6624

**Iain McDermid**  
Information Analyst  
iain.mcdermid@nhs.net  
0131 275 6684

**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the full Scottish Stroke Improvement Programme National Report at [http://www.strokeaudit.scot.nhs.uk/Reports/Reports.html](http://www.strokeaudit.scot.nhs.uk/Reports/Reports.html) or on the ISD website.