Where Are We Now?
Stroke Facts
Every 5 minutes someone in England and Wales has a stroke

 Stroke is the largest single cause of severe disability in England and Wales

 Over 130,000 people in England and Wales will suffer a stroke, over 10,000 are under retirement age
Stroke a Priority

- Our Healthier Nation
- RCP Clinical Guidelines
- NSF For Older People – Standard 5
- NSF for Long Term Disability & CDM

Stroke helpline
0845 3033 100

Website
www.stroke.org.uk
Work still to be done to achieve a first class service

The NSF set milestones for the establishment of specialist stroke services and protocols for the treatment of TIAs to be achieved by 2004 in England
Stroke Services - Evaluation

The National Sentinel Audit of Stroke (data collected between 31st Mar 04 & 7th May 04)

Since 1998 has taken place on a 2 year cycle

RCP devised a detailed questionnaire

100% participation: England 220
Wales 20
N. Ireland 19
Ch. Islands 3
Good News………

A steady improvement with increasing numbers having acute stroke units and stroke specialists within the different professions

2002 – 73% hospitals had stroke units

2004 – 79% hospitals have stroke units
However

Standards for the treatment of stroke is still second class - far behind those for other major conditions such as cancer and heart disease.

Only 15% admit patients immediately to the unit when they first present with a stroke.
Gains on the acute side have been at the expense of hospital and community rehabilitation.

Half of the units are dedicated to rehab only.

On a typical weekday just over half of stroke inpatients are actually on the unit.
What is a Stroke Unit?

Five basic criteria points used in the audit:

- A consultant physician with stroke responsibility
- Formal links with patient and carer organisations
- Weekly multidisciplinary team meetings to plan patient care
- Provision of stroke information for patients
- Continuing education programmes for staff
How many met criteria?

- 2004 - 90% have 4 or all 5 criteria

- Compared with 72% in 2002
What was missing?

Of Stroke Units with 4 criteria

Key elements:

- Consultant Physician
- Team meetings
- Patient information

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Main Points

- Stroke not identified as a medical emergency
- 20 Hospitals do not have a specialist service
- Size of units not changed since 2002
- Little change in number of psychologists, nurses and social workers
- 37% of hospitals that provide stroke unit care do not provide acute stroke beds
Only over half (55%) of TIA patients are seen within 14 days

Specialist community-based services for long-term care and specialist rehabilitation services do not exist for the majority of patients

There has been an increase in the number of Stroke Physicians, Speech & Language Therapists and Dieticians

91% of hospitals offer inpatient CT scans within 24 hours
The Stroke Association

Care received in England, Wales and Northern Ireland still varies considerably

If unnecessary suffering is to be avoided, RCP guidelines on the implementation of stroke care needs to be progressed

We welcome the Government’s continuing commitment to stroke care

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The Stroke Association

Vision statement
We want a world where there are fewer strokes and all those touched by stroke get the help they need.

Mission statement
Our mission is to prevent strokes, and reduce their effect through providing services, campaigning, education and research.
Stroke Association National Help Line
0845 3033 100

www.stroke.org.uk