

Acute Stroke Protocol of Southeastern Ontario

Hotel Dieu Hospital Emergency Transfer Guide

Patients who present with features of an acute ischemic stroke may be eligible for **thrombolytic therapy and/or endovascular thrombectomy (EVT)** at Kingston General Hospital

Inclusion Criteria

- Patient is suspected of having ischemic stroke.
- Clear and credible time of symptom onset can be established and patient can reach KGH:
 - Within 6.0 hours of onset
 - OR
 - Within 6-24 hours of onset if ACT-FAST screen is positive
- *Time of onset is the time patient was last seen well.
- *Time is Brain. The sooner patient arrives at KGH, the greater potential for better outcomes.
- *KGH Stroke team requires 1 hour from KGH ED door to treatment.
- Pregnancy is **NOT** a contraindication.
- Age < 18 years is **NOT** a contraindication.

Exclusion Criteria

- Unknown onset of symptoms or patient last seen well > 24hours.
- Complete resolution of neurological signs (TIA).
- Serious co-morbidity with limited lifespan (e.g., advanced cancer, advanced dementia).
- If uncertain about whether patient meets Acute Stroke Protocol criteria, contact Neurologist on Call for Stroke at KGH

Hotel Dieu Hospital will triage, assess and send eligible stroke patients to Kingston General Hospital. At KGH, the Stroke Team will complete the CT scan prior to decision for IV thrombolysis and/or EVT

The following steps are recommended if the patient meets the eligibility criteria:

Step 1 Arrange for ambulance transfer by informing dispatch that the patient fits “**Acute Stroke Protocol**”

Step 2 Call KGH ED. Ask to speak to the Charge Nurse and inform them you are transferring a patient that meets the “**Acute Stroke Protocol**”. KGH will activate the Stroke Team.

Phone (613) 549-6666 ext 7003

When speaking to KGH please report Blood Pressure elevations of systolic >185 and/or diastolic >110 so the Stroke Team can be prepared to treat the BP when the patient arrives in the ED

Step 3 Complete the following if time permits (**never delay transfer to complete**):

A. Preferred:

- 1 IV (no glucose solutions unless required)
- 1 saline lock started with an 18 gauge needle in the right antecubital fossa unless contraindicated

B. Optional (If time still permits):

- Blood glucose by glucose meter
- CBC, electrolytes, urea, creatinine, troponin, INR, PTT, Type and Hold, glucose, pregnancy test (βHCG) if indicated
- ECG