









Southeastern Ontario, Canada

World Stroke Congress October 2018

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Speaker Disclosure

X	No, nothing to disclose
	Yes, please specify



Acute Stroke Unit Care - The Evidence

- Patients should be admitted to a specialized, geographically defined hospital unit dedicated to the management of stroke patients. (Evidence Level A)
- The core stroke unit team should consist of a healthcare team of professionals with stroke expertise. (Evidence Level A)
- The stroke unit environment leads to standardized care and better outcomes





Logistical Challenges:

Hospital transfers, bed management, infection control, volumes



Acute Stroke Unit Care - The Evidence

- Consolidation of Acute Stroke Care
- Stroke volumes: at least 165 ischemic stroke patients per year per organization.
- Expected clinical practice in Ontario
- Expected Acute LOS 5- 7 days



Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences

Supported an analysis of Ontario stroke data, 2002–2009: hospitals admitting < 130 ischemic stroke patients/year had 38% higher odds of dying in 30 days compared to hospitals admitting 205–470 patients/year.

Quality-Based Procedures: Clinical Handbook for **Stroke** (**Acute and Postacute**)

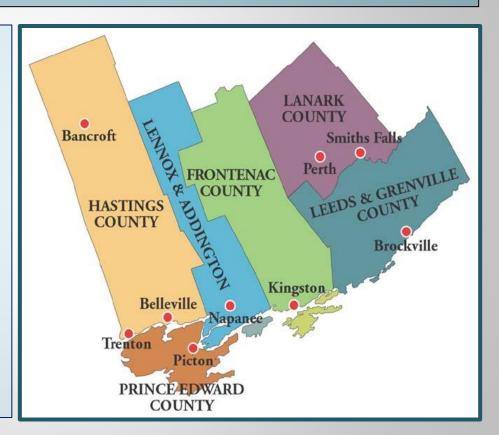
Health Quality Ontario and Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care



Acute Stroke Unit Care - Southeastern Ontario

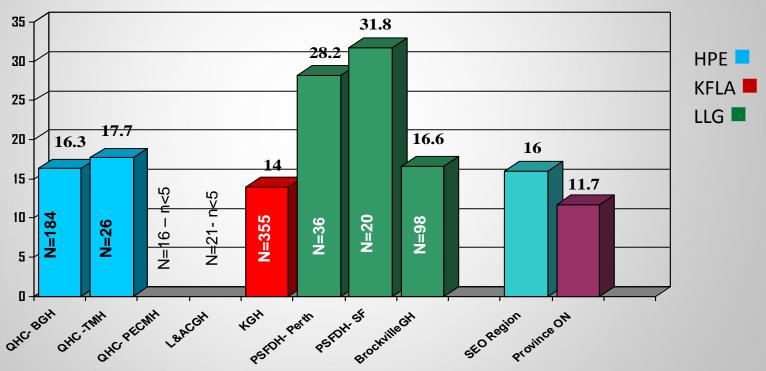
Background

- 20,000 km² rural region
- Population 500,000
- 9 acute hospital sites
- Stroke Report Card indicated high and variable 30-day mortality rates
- Limited & variable access to Acute Stroke Unit Care
- Are resources deployed effectively for best stroke care outcomes?





Challenge! SE LHIN 30-day Risk-Adjusted Mortality Rates 2013-2014



CIHI DAD 2013-14 linked with mortality database



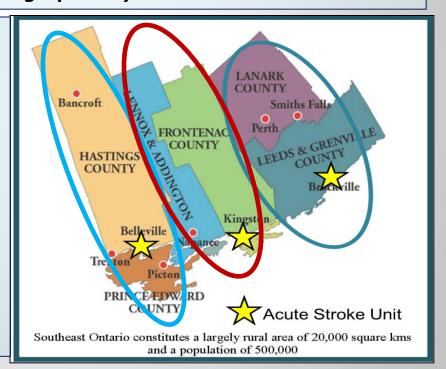
Consolidation of Acute Stroke Care

Aim: 75% of all patients admitted with stroke in the region will receive care by an interprofessional team in a geographically clustered acute stroke unit

Kingston ASU opened in 2004 and integrated service with Napanee in 2014

Belleville ASU integrated service across 4 sites in 2014

Brockville ASU in 2013, low volumes – integrated with Perth and Smiths Falls in 2016



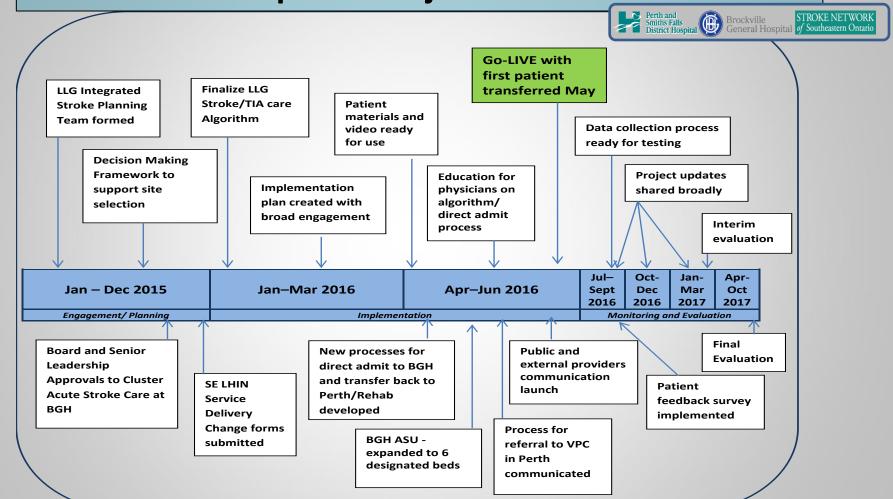


Methods: Regional Implementation Plan

- 1. Engagement of patients, families, providers
- 2. Decision-making framework and communication plan for site selection
- 3. Implementation of standardized care plans
- 4. Education to build expertise
- 5. Algorithms to support emergency department flow to the ASU
- 6. Referral processes for secondary prevention rehabilitation and community supports
- 7. Financial transfer where applicable
- 8. Continuous quality improvement
- 9. Evaluation and sustainability plans



Methods: Example of Project Activities in the East



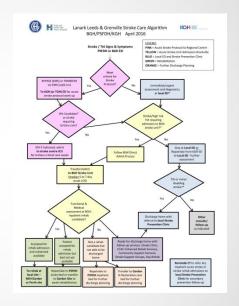
Methods: Examples of Clinical Processes

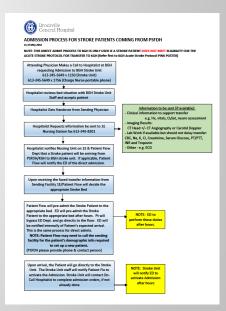
New Clinical processes:

- Stroke Care Algorithm
- Direct Admit Process
- Rehab Referral/Repatriation
- Link to local Stroke Prevention Clinics and Community Supports

Updates/Training:

- Clinical Pathways & Care Plans
- CNS training for nursing
- Dysphagia Screening
- Additional training for staff new to the ASU







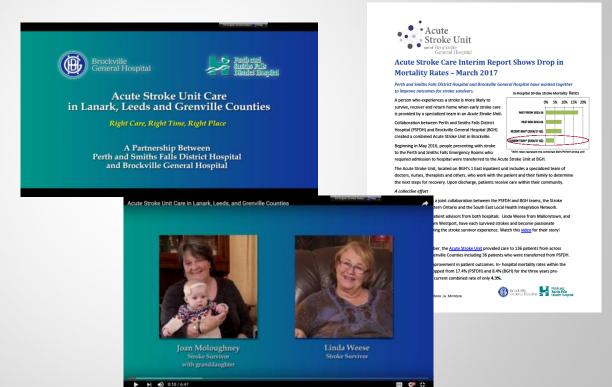
Methods: Examples of Communication



Recovery can be expected after a stroke.

People who experience a stroke can survive and recover.







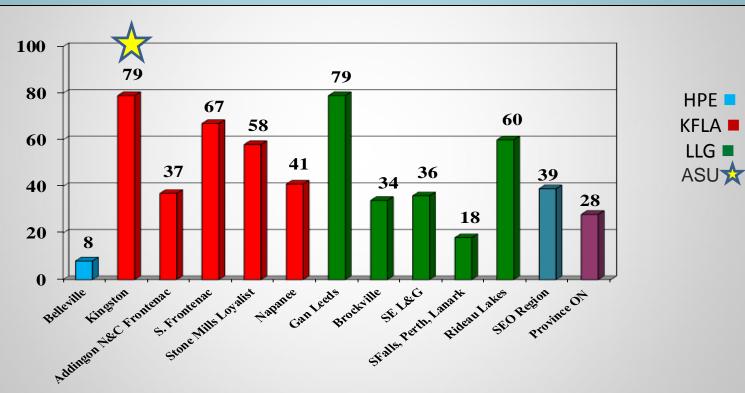
Regional Results: Key Highlights

Over 4 years from 2013/14 to 2016/17

- Acute stroke care consolidated from 9 sites to 3 ASUs in Belleville, Kingston and Brockville
- > Each ASU achieved critical mass of >165 annual stroke volume
- Regional ASU utilization rates improved from 38.5% to 77%
- Regional 30-day all-cause risk-adjusted mortality dropped from 16.0% to 11.3%
- Changes in both indicators were statistically significant per Ontario Stroke Report Card analysis of progress (by ICES)
- > Evaluation findings at local sites indicated patient, family and staff satisfaction
- At all ASUs, clinical best practices were more likely to occur (e.g., timely CT scan, vascular imaging, dysphagia screening)



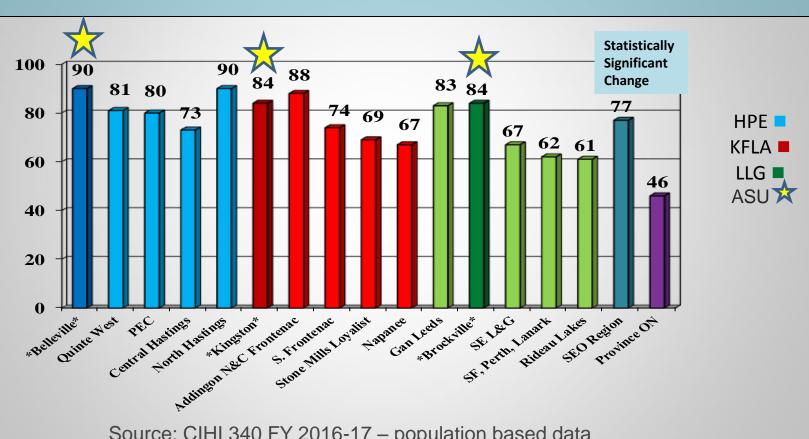
2013-14 ASU Utilization Rates prior to consolidation



Source: CIHI 340 FY 2013-14 – population based data



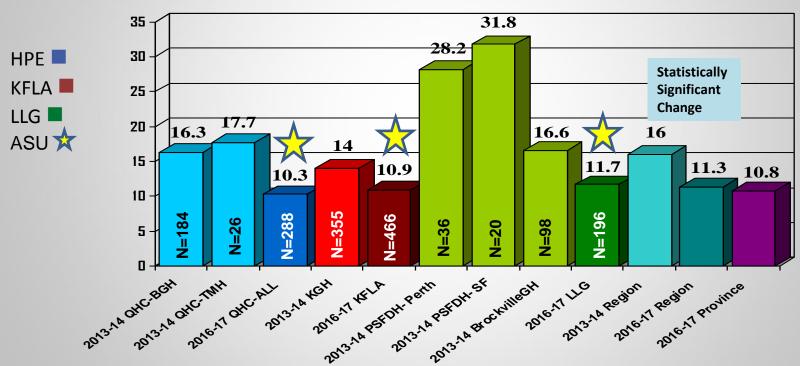
Results: 2016-17 ASU Utilization Rates



Source: CIHI 340 FY 2016-17 – population based data



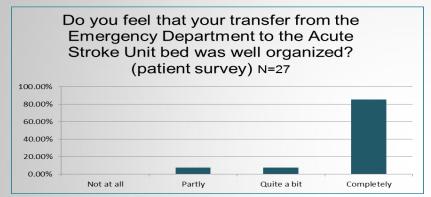
Results: 30-day Risk-Adjusted Mortality Rates 2013-14 to 2016-2017

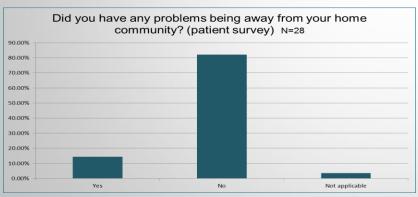


CIHI DAD 2013-14 and 2016-17 linked with mortality database



Patient Feedback - Example







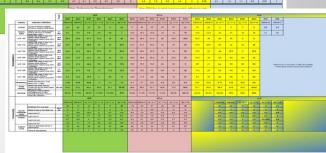
- Surveys administered via iPads July 2016 -2017
- Consistently positive responses
- ➤ Little to no concerns from patients going to another hospital for care



Current Acute Care Priorities

- Regional Dashboard: ongoing monitoring is key to sustaining gains
- Belleville: Integration of Acute
 & Rehab Stroke Units
- Kingston: Sustaining Accreditation Canada Stroke Distinction status
- > Brockville: Building a new Rehab Unit
- > All: Sustaining regional 24/7 access to EVT



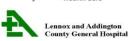












Conclusion: Regional consolidation of acute stroke care to three ASUs resulted in a 77% ASU utilization rate with an associated 5% actual drop in 30-day mortality rates over a 4 year period.



Special thanks to our patient advisors