Acute Stroke Protocol of Southeastern Ontario

Emergency Transfer Guide
Patients who present with features of an acute ischemic stroke
may be eligible for thrombolytic therapy and/or endovascular
thrombectomy 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 <u>6.0 hours of onset</u>
    OR
  - Within <u>6-24 hours of onset if ACT-FAST screen is positive</u>

  *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

The following steps are recommended if the patient meets eligibility criteria and is stable for transfer:

Step 1   Arrange for ambulance transfer by calling dispatch.
Inform the dispatcher that patient fits **"Acute Stroke Protocol"**

Step 2   Call KGH Emergency Department. Ask to speak to the Charge Nurse and inform them you have a patient that meets the **"Acute Stroke Protocol"**

Phone (613) 549-6666 extension 7003

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):
- CBC, electrolytes, urea, creatinine, troponin, INR, PTT, glucose, pregnancy test (βHCG) if indicated
- ECG

Step 4   Fax blood work and all relevant patient information to KGH Emergency Department:

Fax (613) 548-2420