

Stroke Unit Site Visit Guide

Instructions for Site requesting Stroke Unit visit

Deciding on which Stroke Unit to Visit

Refer to the **Stroke Unit Contact Sheet** to locate a facility with a stroke unit that more closely resembles your facility or that would best meet your needs.

The **Stroke Unit Contact Sheet** is located at www.ontariostrokenetwork.ca website (*Members Only Section*), in the **Stroke Quality Based Procedures Resource Centre** folder located in the dropdown menu for **Healthcare Providers/Partners**.

Preparing for the Visit

In planning for the stroke unit visit consider that the site hosting the visit may require one or two months advance notice depending on their team's availability. They will want to understand the purpose of your visit and who and how many will be involved in the visit. You may want to disseminate the sample site visit questions (see page 2) to your interprofessional team to see if they have different or any additional questions. You may want to provide the site hosting the visit with your template of questions in advance so they have ample time to prepare any material or resources for your site visit or have a pre-visit teleconference with the host site regarding your questions.

Sample Site Visit Questionnaire

This tool contains sample questions for your stroke unit visit. **Please note you are not limited to the questions below. Feel free to add, change, or delete questions to meet your needs.** The tool could be used by organizations embarking in the very early stages of stroke unit planning (acute, integrated or rehab); or by an organization with an existing stroke unit interested in knowing more about one or more aspects of stroke unit care e.g., bullet rounds etc.

Sample Site Visit Questionnaire

Questions	Responses
Name and Location of Organization	
Type of Stroke Unit and # of beds	
Stroke Volumes(Ischemic, hemorrhagic and TIAs)	
Location of Stroke Unit	
Are you a Telestroke site?	
Catchment: How many hospitals refer to your stroke centre or stroke unit?	
Physical Layout of Stroke Unit	
Acute/Integrated Stroke Unit	Rehabilitation Stroke Unit
<input type="checkbox"/> How did you decide on the physical location of the unit?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Any specialized equipment purchased for set up of stroke unit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Location of: <input type="radio"/> Gym: <input type="radio"/> Dining Room: Any specialized equipment used in rehab therapy?

Questions	Responses
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Operations

Acute	Integrated	Rehabilitation
<p>a. Patient monitoring post tPA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continuous cardiac monitoring or tPA o Telemetry <p>b. Are patients recovered elsewhere in the hospital post tPA?</p>	<p>c. If the integrated stroke unit is in 1 physical location e.g., 4 beds acute and 3 beds rehab in 1 physical location how do you switch the patients from acute to rehab?</p> <p>d. How were staff prepared to care for these patients i.e., do you have a mix of rehab nurses and acute care nurses? If so how did the rehab nurses expand their acute stroke skills and vice versa?</p> <p>**Also consider asking questions: a, b, e, f, g and h.</p>	<p>e. How does your organization assess readiness for rehabilitation and how often?</p> <p>f. What strategies do you use to support rehab intensity?</p> <p>g. How do you schedule your patients for therapy and how is this communicated with the team and patient?</p> <p>h. Do you offer weekend passes in your stroke rehab program? What is the process?</p>

What is the model of care for stroke patients not on your stroke unit?

How are stroke beds protected?

What is your Charge Nurse Model?

Does the Charge Nurse on Nights and Weekends have a patient assignment?

How is infection control is handled in terms of bed management?

Questions	Responses	
<p>Interprofessional Team Composition</p>	<p>Positions</p>	<p>Ratio of staff to number of beds</p>
	a. OT	
	b. PT	
	c. SLP	
	d. Dietitian	
	e. Recreation Therapist	
	f. Pharmacist	
	g. RN	
	h. Social Worker	
	i. Rehab Assistant	
	j. RPN	
	k. NP/CNS	
	l. Psychiatrist	
	m. Stroke Navigator	
	n. Other:	
<p>Role Clarity with respect to any of the above roles? E.g., NP role; Stroke Navigator role, District Stroke Coordinator etc.</p>		
<p>Who is the Physician Lead for Stroke?</p>		
<p>What is your physician complement for stroke?</p>		
<p>Describe the admission process for the stroke patient.</p>		

Questions	Responses
<p style="text-align: center;">Rounds</p> <p>Is there an opportunity to sit on Rounds?</p> <p>What is the process for your rounds? <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly Rounds <input type="checkbox"/> Daily Bullet Rounds <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <p>Who attends the above rounds?</p> <p>Who leads the above rounds?</p> <p>How did you encourage participation and attendance at rounds?</p> <p>Do you use a template for any of the above rounds?</p> <p>Where do bullet rounds take place?</p> <p>Do patients and families participate in any of the rounds?</p> <p>Do you use Whiteboards to guide rounds?</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Patients and Family Experience</p>	

Questions	Responses
<p>Did you involve patients and families in the design of new processes, and/or implementation of your stroke unit?</p>	
<p>How does the team coordinate patient/family teaching? Who is involved?</p>	
<p>For patient/family education is there an education package; Education Classes/Patient Passport?</p> <p>Does the team use a patient/family teaching tool?</p>	
<p>How is feedback obtained from patients and families?</p>	
<p>Any program that assists with the transition of patients home?</p>	
<p>Hyperacute and Acute Stroke Process</p> <p>What is your process for ischemic strokes?</p> <p>Where are tPA patients taken post tPA?</p> <p>What is your process for hemorrhagic strokes?</p> <p>How are hemorrhagic strokes requiring neurosurgery handled?</p>	
<p>In-Hospital Code Strokes</p>	

Questions	Responses	
What is your process for in- hospital code strokes?		
<p>Care Pathway</p> <p>Do you have a stroke care pathway?</p> <p>Who completes the pathway?</p> <p>How does the team use the stroke care pathway?</p> <p>Any issues with the care pathway?</p>		
<p>Screening</p> <p>Can you share screening tools and assessment tools used by the team?</p> <p>How does the team communicate or share screening or assessment results?</p>	<p>Name of Screening Tool used:</p> <p>a. Dysphagia:</p> <p>b. Cognition:</p> <p>c. Depression:</p> <p>d. Oral care:</p> <p>e. Alpha Fim:</p> <p>f. Other:</p> <p>g. Other:</p>	<p>Who performs the screening and when is screening done?</p>
REHABILITATION		
<p>What Rehab Screening or Assessment tools do you use?</p>		

Questions	Responses
<p>Discharge and Transition Management</p> <p>Where are patients transitioned to from the stroke unit?</p> <p>Do you have an Early Supported Discharge Team (ESD), or other community stroke rehab team?</p> <p>How are patients and families prepared for transitions and/or discharge?</p> <p>What is the process for discharge planning? How is the Interprofessional Team involved? When does it commence? How are patients and families involved?</p>	
<p>Documentation Paper or Electronic?</p>	
<p>Sustainability</p> <p>What internal data (indicators) do you collect to assess performance? Do you have a dashboard? If so, how is the dashboard shared with staff?</p> <p>Do you have a regular process/forum to review</p>	

Questions	Responses
<p>performance metrics? If so who is invited to attend?</p>	
<p>Staff Education</p> <p>What process do you use to orient new staff on stroke?</p> <p>Do you have a stroke orientation schedule?</p> <p>What staff opportunities exist for continuing stroke education?</p> <p>What was your training model to prepare staff for stroke unit implementation?</p>	<p style="text-align: center; opacity: 0.5; font-size: 48px; transform: rotate(-30deg);">DRAFT</p>
<p>Other</p>	

Extra Notes pages

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