



December 20th, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion
Call to order	Dr. Gene Latorre called the meeting to order at 10:02
Meeting Minutes Approval/Membership	<p>Previous meeting minutes approved with no additions or revisions.</p> <p>All attendees introduced themselves, identified their role and affiliation.</p>
Chairman Update	<p>Dr. Latorre provided the group with an update on mechanical thrombectomy (MT) for large core infarction (which was previously discussed with this group stemming from the “2024 ISC highlights”). Six randomized-controlled trials were reviewed with the group, identifying that MT can still be beneficial for patients with large core infarction. The trials included: RESCUE-Japan LIMIT, TENSION, LASTE, TESLA, SELECT-2, and ANGEL-ASPECT. Details of each trial and subsequent results can be found within the attached Chairman Report ppt.</p>
Old Business	ICH guidance documents and Upstate’s Telestroke Network technology updates were briefly discussed as old business.
New Business	<p>Josh initiated a discussion about the use of stroke severity scales, seeking input on which scales were being used across different regions. He provided an overview of the scales utilized in each area and how regional EMS teams were using their assessment findings to guide destination decisions. Most regions in New York State use the FAST-ED stroke severity scale, with an LVO threshold of 3-4. Downstate EMS regions, however, rely on the S-LAMS stroke severity scale. In New York, except for Central New York and North Country EMS, most regions use stroke severity scores to determine optimal destinations for potential thrombectomy cases. Scott Ward (St. Joseph’s Hospital) highlighted the capacity challenges in Syracuse hospitals and emphasized the importance of stroke scoring tools for making destination decisions in the Syracuse area.</p> <p>Heather from Rome shared their approach of teaching EMS the guideline: “FAST-ED of 4 or more, don’t go to Rome’s door,” encouraging transport to a Comprehensive Stroke Center. Josh and Dr. Latorre thanked the group for their input and encouraged continuing the discussion during the Spring meeting, as some key stakeholders were unable to attend this session.</p> <p>Pulsara remains widely utilized across our regions, with most hospitals incorporating it in some way. The application has been praised as an effective tool for providing immediate feedback to EMS, particularly when a mechanical thrombectomy is performed and a photo of the clot can be shared.</p>
New York States Updates	Josh mentioned that New York State DOH is set to be releasing an updated stroke guidance document in early 2025. Josh will alert the group when this document is available.



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Educational Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Stroke Conference LA Feb 5-7 • Rochester Regional Health Virtual Conference March 5 • AANN New Orleans March 16-18 • Rochester STAR conference Canandaigua, NY May 15 • Upstate Stroke Survivor Camp Lowville, NY Sept 12-14 • Upstate RUSH Virtual Lunch and Learn- Monthly, recurring
Regional Reports/Round Table	No major updates from the members
Accreditation Updates	<p>Dawn Wage (UHS Wilson) shared that she recently participated in a DNV Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC) survey. The surveyors focused on documentation consistency and the titration of vasoactive drips, particularly for patients with hemorrhagic stroke.</p> <p>Kelly Kraus (Auburn) reported leading her team through a Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center (PSC) survey. She noted that the surveyors emphasized blood pressure management and head positioning for hemorrhagic stroke patients, along with the standard survey elements.</p>
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned 10:49
Next Meeting:	March 20, 2025 via Zoom (https://upstate.zoom.us/j/91785668079)

Attendee list on next page.



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Attendee List:

Name	Affiliation
Jay Moore	Gouverneur Hospital
Blair Bulluck	Carthage Hospital
Heather Perry	Rome Hospital
Mike Jorolemon	Crouse Hospital
Luke Gasowski	LifeNet-AirMethods
Jarrold Waufle	Midstate EMS
John Melnick	Midstate EMS
Josh Onyan	Upstate University Hospital
Gene Latorre	Upstate University Hospital
Michelle Vallelunga	Upstate University Hospital
Jennifer Dennis	Upstate University Hospital
Ronda Fitzgerald	Samaritan Medical Center
Scott Goldsmith	Cayuga Medical Center
Hamza Malek	Canton-Potsdam Hospital
Scott Ward	St. Joseph's Hospital
Oksana Kaskov	Crouse Hospital
Riccardo Turrin	Carthage Hospital
Chris Symenow	River Hospital
Dawn Wage	UHS Wilson
Eric Hojnowski	Upstate Community Hospital
Christine Sullivan	Samaritan Medical Center
Prakash Ramanathan	UHS Wilson
Becca Sykes	Canton-Potsdam Hospital
Tracie Davoy	Lewis County Hospital
Megan Vianos	Guthrie Cortland Medical Center
Marcy Teal	Lewis County Hospital
Amanda Slate	North Country EMS
Kelly Kraus	Auburn Hospital
Christ Pharoah	River Hospital
Luke Atwater	Guthrie Cortland Medical Center