

March 21st, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion
Call to order	Due to an ICU emergency requiring Dr. Latorre's attention, Josh Onyan began the meeting at 10:15
Meeting Minutes Approval/Membership	<p>The previous meeting minutes were approved with a correction to the UHS Wilson Comprehensive Stroke Center certifying body—The Joint Commission conducted the stroke survey, not DNV as originally stated.</p> <p>Following this, all attendees introduced themselves, stating their role and affiliation.</p>
Chairman Update	<p>Dr. Latorre provided updates from the International Stroke Conference, which occurred in Los Angeles in February. Full details can be found in the attached ppt.</p> <p>Extended Window for Intravenous Thrombolysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thrombolysis may be beneficial for patients presenting with last known well (LKW) beyond 4.5 hours if CT perfusion shows salvageable tissue. Trials (TRACE, HOPE) show IV thrombolysis (tPA or TNK) is effective for patients with LVO not undergoing mechanical thrombectomy (MER). No additional benefit was observed for IV thrombolysis in patients already going for MER. <p>Mechanical Thrombectomy for Large Core Infarct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six randomized trials confirm the benefit of thrombectomy for large core infarcts, with a number needed to treat (NNT) of 8. Increased rates of symptomatic intracranial hemorrhage (sICH) were observed but without increased mortality. <p>Intra-Arterial Thrombolysis After Successful Thrombectomy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No-reflow phenomenon occurs in about 30% of stroke patients despite successful thrombectomy. Intra-arterial TNK or tPA post-thrombectomy improves functional outcomes without increasing sICH or mortality. <p>Mechanical Thrombectomy for Medium/Distal Vessel Occlusions (MEVO/DIVO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current trials (DISTAL, ESCAPE-MEVO, DISCOUNT) show no clear benefit of EVT for MEVO/DIVO. Future treatment strategies may include patient selection via CT perfusion and intra-arterial thrombolysis. <p>Minimally Invasive Surgery for Intracerebral Hemorrhage (ICH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective for lobar hemorrhages (ENRICH and MIND trials). No strong evidence for deep hemorrhage interventions. Early and near-complete evacuation leads to better outcomes. <p>ICH Care Bundle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Code ICH" promotes standardized care protocols for hemorrhagic stroke management.
Old Business	Pulsara updates by region were discussed.

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	<p>Susie (CNY) reported that several agencies have successfully linked documentation in Pulsara, enabling data integration between the PCR and Pulsara. This allows EMS to document in a single record. She also noted that EMS will be required to report stroke severity using the FAST-ED score within their Pulsara stroke alert. This may aid in determining hospital destinations, a topic previously discussed.</p> <p>Amanda (North Country EMS) mentioned that not all agencies are compliant with Pulsara usage, leading to inconsistent adoption across service areas.</p> <p>Jarrold (Mid-State EMS) reported that many of his EMS teams continue to use Pulsara.</p>																		
New Business	<p>Jenn Murphy, RN, from Upstate’s Pediatric Resuscitation team, was prepared to present on the successful implementation of the pediatric stroke code pathway. However, due to time constraints, the presentation has been rescheduled for the next meeting.</p>																		
New York States Updates	<p>Josh informed the group about the upcoming HERDS survey, which serves as the mechanism for NYS to collect stroke data from hospitals. The survey will open on April 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM, with an instructional webinar scheduled for the same day at 11:00 AM. The deadline for submitting the completed HERDS survey is May 30, 2025, at 11:59 PM.</p> <p>Josh also discussed the recent email from the DOH sent to participating hospitals, notifying hospital CEOs of their 2023 performance data. He reminded the group that "door-to" times include not only patients arriving via the ED but also direct admissions.</p> <p>Josh reviewed the new 2025 NYS DOH Stroke Guidance Documents, which were released just before 1/1/2025, with a go live date of 1/1/2025. Major changes are listed below:</p> <table><tr><th>Performance Measure</th><th>Change(s) Made</th><th>Effective Date</th></tr><tr><td>NYS PSC 4: Thrombolytic therapy (arrive by 2 hours, treat by 3 hours)</td><td>Changed to: NYS PSC 4: Thrombolytic therapy (arrive by 3.5 hours, treat by 4.5 hours)</td><td>2020</td></tr><tr><td>NYS PSC 17: Door to MD/DO assessment (10 minutes)</td><td>Changed to: NYS PSC 17: Door to MD/DO/NP/PA assessment (10 minutes)</td><td>1/1/2025</td></tr><tr><td>NYS PSC 11: Initial NIHSS reported</td><td>Retired Measure</td><td>1/1/2025</td></tr><tr><td>NYS PSC 24: NIHSS Reported</td><td>Added Measure</td><td>1/1/2025</td></tr><tr><td>NYS TSC 6: NIHSS at Discharge</td><td>Retired Measure</td><td>1/1/2025</td></tr></table>	Performance Measure	Change(s) Made	Effective Date	NYS PSC 4: Thrombolytic therapy (arrive by 2 hours, treat by 3 hours)	Changed to: NYS PSC 4: Thrombolytic therapy (arrive by 3.5 hours, treat by 4.5 hours)	2020	NYS PSC 17: Door to MD/DO assessment (10 minutes)	Changed to: NYS PSC 17: Door to MD/DO/NP/PA assessment (10 minutes)	1/1/2025	NYS PSC 11: Initial NIHSS reported	Retired Measure	1/1/2025	NYS PSC 24: NIHSS Reported	Added Measure	1/1/2025	NYS TSC 6: NIHSS at Discharge	Retired Measure	1/1/2025
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Educational Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AANN New Orleans March 16-18- just occurred• 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	<p>Dawn Wage announced a carotid screening event at UHS Wilson on May 1, 2025, which will include a comprehensive stroke risk assessment, including carotid ultrasounds.</p> <p>Michelle Vallelunga shared details about Upstate's upcoming stroke screening event on May 6, 2025, in Syracuse, NY. This event will offer vital sign screenings, medication reconciliation by a pharmacist, and an in-depth discussion of stroke risk factors with neurologists.</p>
Accreditation Updates	Several members reported that their annual accreditations will be throughout this spring. Josh wished everyone luck.
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned 11:00
Next Meeting:	June 20, 2025 (https://upstate.zoom.us/j/91785668079)

Attendee list on next page.



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Attendee List:

Name	Affiliation
Amanda Slate	North Country EMS
Blair Bulluck	Carthage Hospital
Christy Pharoah	River Hospital
Dawn Wage	UHS Wilson
Eric Hojnowski	Upstate Community Hospital
Gene Latorre	Upstate University Hospital
Hamza Malek	Canton Potsdam Hospital
Heather Perry	Rome Hospital
Jarrold Waufle	Midstate EMS
Jay Moore	Gouverneur Hospital
Jennifer Dennis	Upstate University Hospital
Jennifer Murphy	Upstate University Hospital
Josh Onyan	Upstate University Hospital
Laci Daniels	Guthrie Lourdes
Lindsey Daley	Guthrie Lourdes
Michelle Vallelunga	Upstate University Hospital
Oksana Kaskov	Crouse Hospital
Prakash Ramanathan	UHS Wilson
Rebecca Sykes	Canton Potsdam Hospital
Riccardo Turrin	Carthage Hospital
Sherri Estep	Samaritan Medical Center
Susie Surprenant	CNY EMS