

ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016

2015-16 in Review *Huron Perth District* *Stroke Centre*

We're excited to share the significant accomplishments of the Huron Perth District Stroke Centre following another eventful year. These accomplishments include the advancement of best practice stroke care across the continuum, and the realignment of stroke services within the hospitals of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA).

In acute care, existing Stroke Order Sets were revised and an Admission Order Set for the management of Hemorrhagic Stroke was introduced under the guidance of Dr. Shanil Narayan, Physician Champion, and Louise Flanagan, Nurse Clinician with the Secondary Stroke Prevention Clinic. To support interventions included in the order sets, the following practice changes were introduced at Stratford General Hospital:

- Stroke patients now remain "NPO" until a swallowing screen is completed
- CT angiography is now performed for tPA candidates in order to determine eligibility for endovascular therapy.

To further support the uptake of stroke best practices, a number of educational initiatives were implemented:

- HPHA Emergency Department physicians and Stratford General Hospital Critical Care and Emergency Department nursing staff received education in the use of the National Institute of Health Stroke Scale in preparation for implementation of Telestroke services at the Stratford site

- Alexandra Marine & General Hospital hosted a Telestroke Best Practice Update presented by Dr. Jennifer Mandzia
- Staff from across all disciplines attended the Regional Stroke Rehabilitation Forum focusing on rehab intensity

Also in acute care, the realignment of stroke services within the HPHA hospitals was achieved by working closely with our EMS partners in Huron and Perth counties. Education for paramedics was provided and new 'redirect' language was created along with the revision of EMS 'prompt cards'. Simultaneously, an algorithm for "walk-in" strokes/TIAs at HPHA sites was implemented.



HPHA team members support Heart & Stroke Big Bike ride

We had a great turnout on May 6, 2015 for the annual Heart & Stroke Big Bike ride. Our enthusiastic team of 18 peddled through downtown Stratford and together raised a total of \$2,429.00. As a Community, we raised \$53,000, in 4 days from 38 teams! This wouldn't have been possible without all of the hard work of those who rode, collected pledges and donated to such a great cause.



In the community, our Community Stroke Rehab Team, along with the teams from Thames Valley and Grey Bruce participated in a clinical research study (STRIVE) designed to evaluate the cost and clinical effectiveness of delivering speech-language pathology services via videoconferencing.



The Integrated Stroke Unit team celebrates the first anniversary of the opening of the ISU.

Excitement is already mounting regarding the realignment of stroke services across Huron and Perth counties and the expansion of the integrated stroke unit in Stratford along with the regional project work related to the directional recommendations for the SSPC and CSRT.



tPA clock at Alexandra Marine & General Hospital

The tPA clock has been in use in the emergency department (ED) at Alexandra Marine and General Hospital, Goderich for almost a year. The clock is intended to improve staff awareness related to timeliness in the hyperacute phase. Dr. Radan, ED Physician and Chief of

ED says the clock provides a great visual cue, and quick reference to how much time has elapsed. Lori Merner Manager of ED, OR, Ambulatory Care & MDRU states the clock is valued as a tool for improving timeliness in the hyperacute phase.

