

Fewer Strokes. Better Outcomes.

ANNUAL REPORT 2013 - 2014



Thames Valley District Stroke Centre – 2013/14

The Urgent TIA Clinic and Carotid Endarterectomy Clinics at University Hospital in London continue to see high volumes of patients. From April 1, 2013 to March 14, 2014, the Urgent TIA and Carotid Endarterectomy Clinics had a combined total of 1240 referrals and 1612 patient visits.

In Thames Valley there remains a need for a structured approach to primary and secondary stroke prevention programming in the community and the Thames Valley District Stroke Council has been considering options to help fill this gap.

In the summer of 2013, the Emergency Department-to-Emergency Department transfer algorithm for tPA candidates was released after approximately a year in development. This algorithm was created in response to consistent requests from hospital stakeholders for a clearly defined process to facilitate the transfer of potential tPA candidates to University Hospital.

London Health Sciences Centre has been actively engaged in Continuous Quality Improvement procedures for stroke this past year. LHSC is in the process of revising its rapid response process for strokes that occur in-house. University Hospital, the Designated Stroke Centre for the district as well as the Regional Stroke Centre, has also begun its staged opening of a “hyperacute” stroke unit.

The Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network and University Hospital have also led a district-wide initiative to create and implement a patient education and transition binder. This initiative is currently being piloted at several hospitals across the district. More information

can be found in the Regional Acute Care report.

The Community Stroke Rehabilitation Team (CSRT) in Thames Valley saw over 250 patients this past fiscal year.



London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC)-
University Hospital.

In fall 2013 the South West LHIN approved a funding proposal for a Stroke Day which had been submitted by the Thames Valley CSRT, the Oxford Victoria Order of Nurses (VON), and the Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network. A Stroke Day is a specialized Adult Day Program (ADP) program that offers slower paced rehabilitation for stroke survivors who have moved past the active rehabilitation phase. It is based on the successful model at the One Care ADP in Clinton, ON. The Stroke Day rehabilitation is monitored and

supported by the CSRT and it is provided by the ADP staff. It is anticipated that the weekly Stroke Day will be a transitional program between active rehabilitation and community programming. It is anticipated to launch at the Woodstock ADP in mid-2014.

The Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network hosted a Collaborative Interprofessional Stroke Care in Community Re-engagement Workshop in Elgin County last year. In this workshop, health care and service providers are provided with training materials and resources to implement a community re-engagement framework and an interprofessional collaborative care approach to improve the day to day delivery of care to stroke survivors. This event was well attended with cross-continuum representation. One outcome of the workshop was the creation and submission of a funding proposal for a Stroke Day (as described above) for Elgin County.

Also in 2013/14, additional initiatives impacting stroke care were implemented in Thames Valley beyond the work of the Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network. HUGO, a series of common electronic order sets, was implemented in Thames Valley acute care facilities in 2013/2014, with the exception of LHSC and St. Joseph's Health Care London (Parkwood Hospital). LHSC and SJHC will launch HUGO in early 2014/2015. The CCAC is now functioning in its enhanced role as point of access for inpatient rehabilitation and CCC beds in both in Oxford and Elgin Counties. The CCAC has been functioning in its enhanced role in Oxford County since 2012 and assumed this role in Elgin County in the early fall of 2013.