

# Provincial Stroke Rounds

Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Evaluation

For the **Provincial Stroke Rounds Planning Committee:**

- To plan future programs
- For quality assurance and improvement
  
- For **You:** Reflecting on what you've learned and how you plan to apply it can help you enact change as you return to your professional duties
  
- For **Speakers:** The responses help understand participant learning needs, teaching outcomes and opportunities for improvement.

<https://forms.office.com/r/3EnLu1kc7u>



Please take 2 minutes to fill the evaluation form out. Thank you!

- The Provincial Stroke Rounds Committee mitigated bias by ensuring there was no Industry involvement in planning or education content.
- The Ontario Regional Education Group (OREG) host member, on behalf of the Provincial Stroke Rounds Committee, reviewed the initial presentation supplied by the speaker to ensure no evidence of bias.



Federico Carpani, MD  
Neurologist, UHN Stroke Fellow

# Stroke / ICU Liaison :

A new collaborative model for the interdisciplinary care of stroke patients



Keith Sivakumar, MD, MBA  
Neurologist, UHN Stroke Staff,  
Education Lead







# OBJECTIVES



To describe the QI process

To showcase the benefits of  
interprofessional collaboration



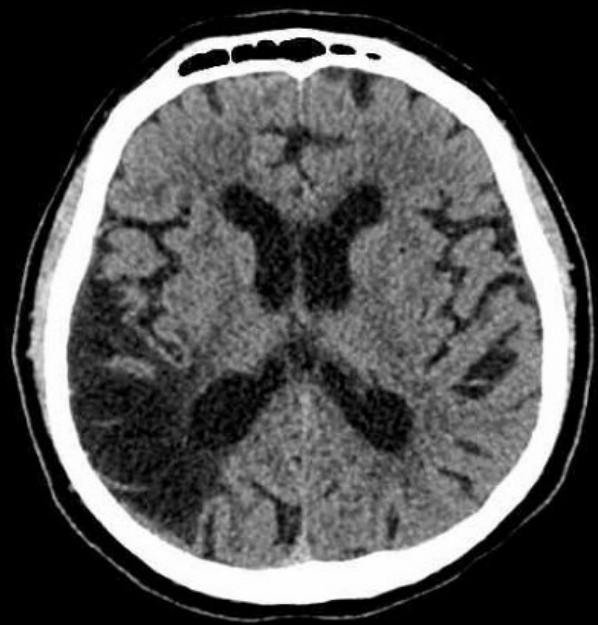
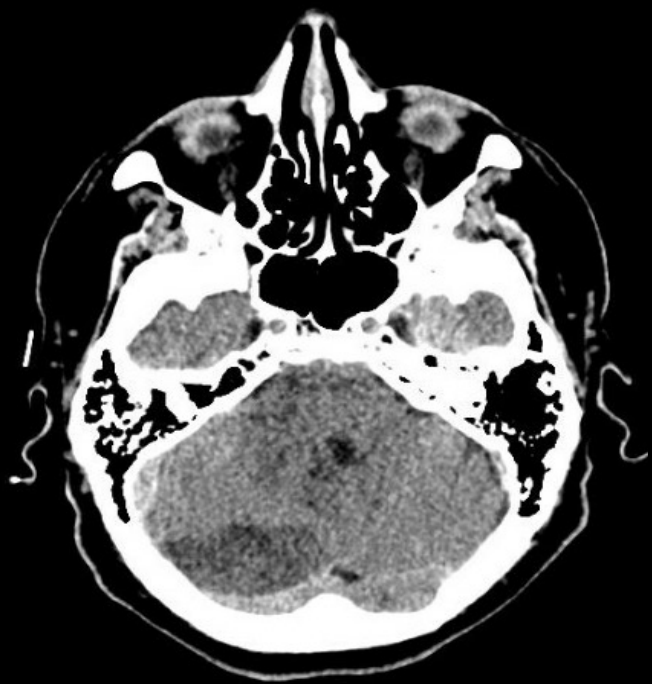


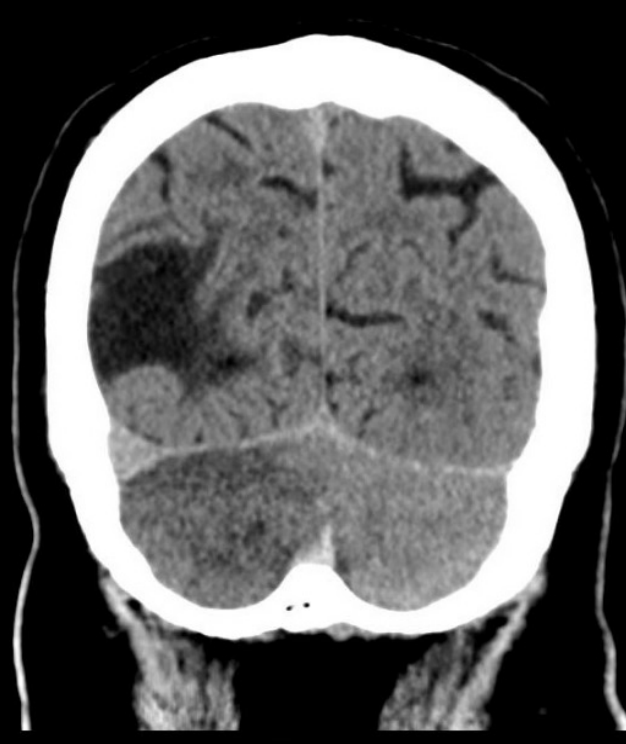
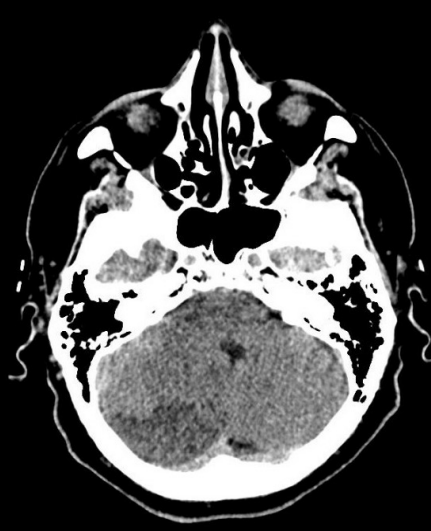
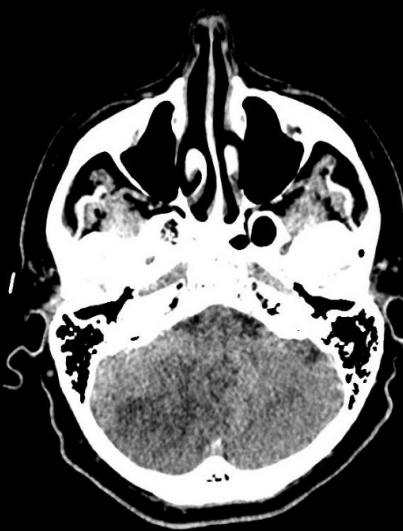
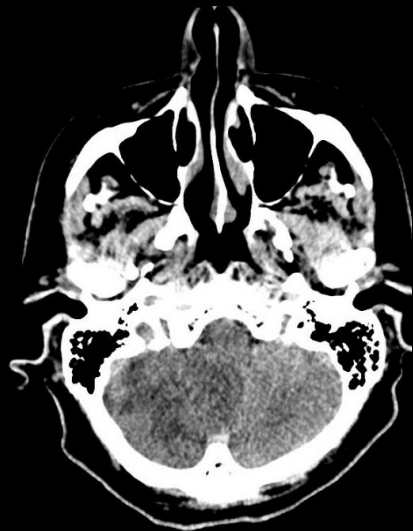








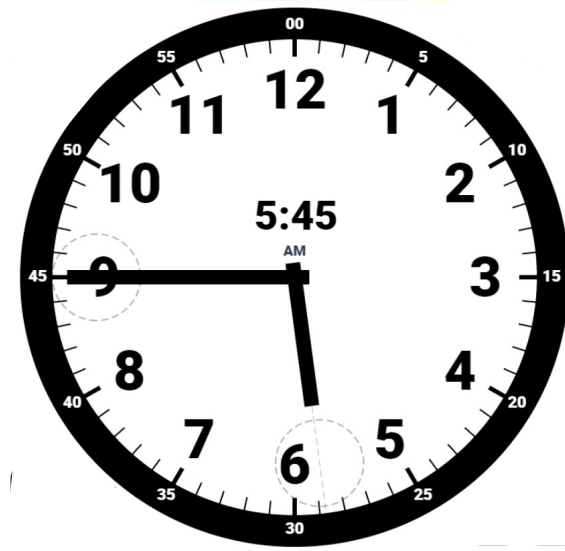
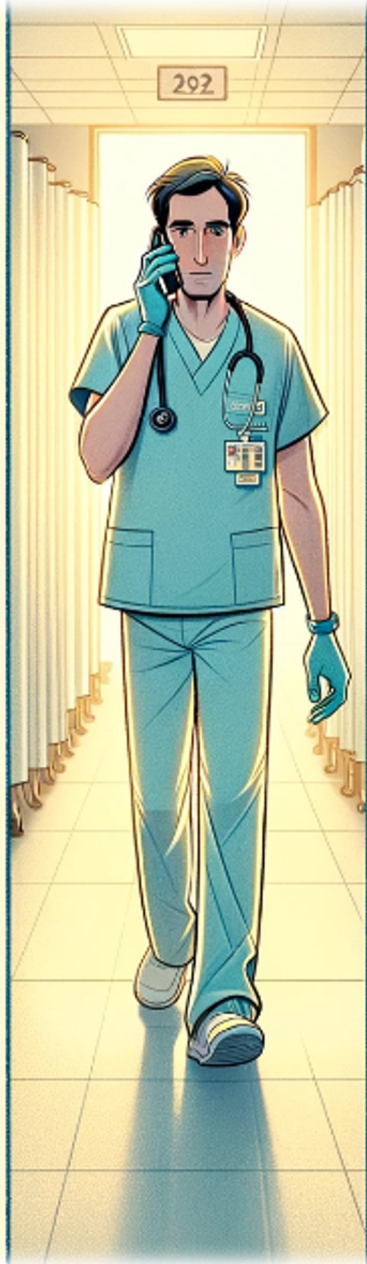




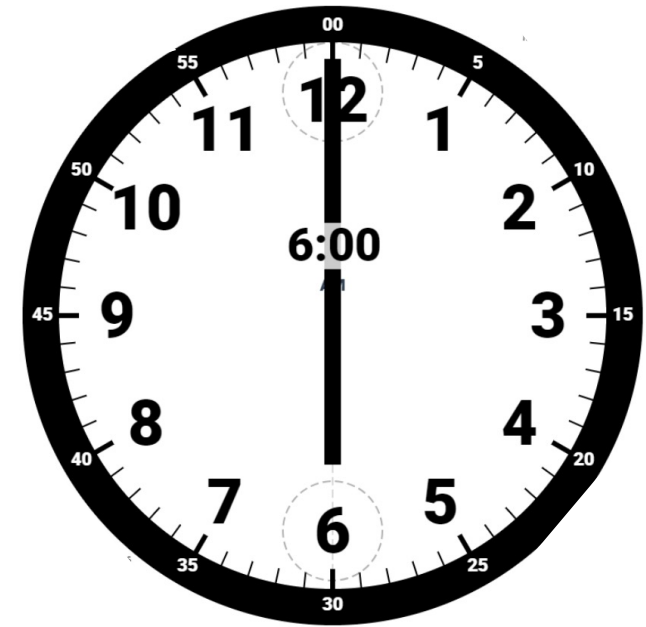












**Pupils are equal and reactive.**

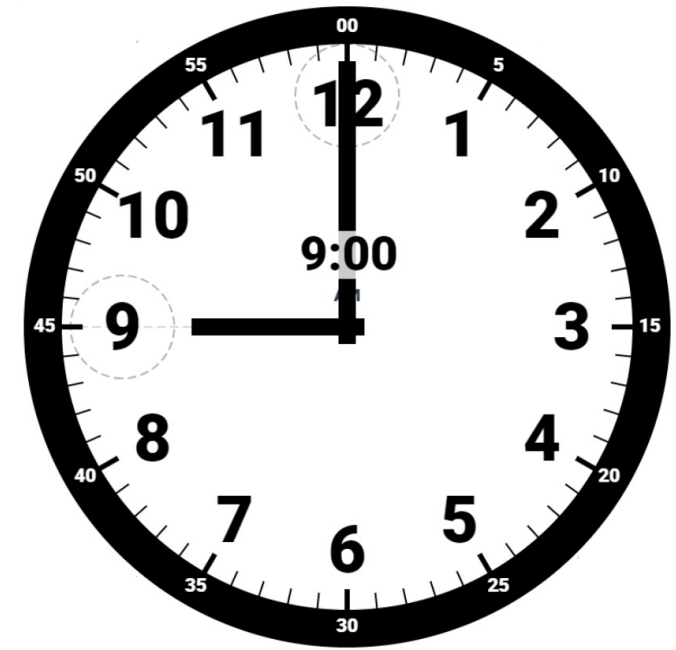
**NIHSS 7**

**GCS 14 (E4 – V4 – M6)**

**BP 130 / 75 – No Meds**

**HR 60 – 120 Afib**





**Pupils are equal and reactive.**

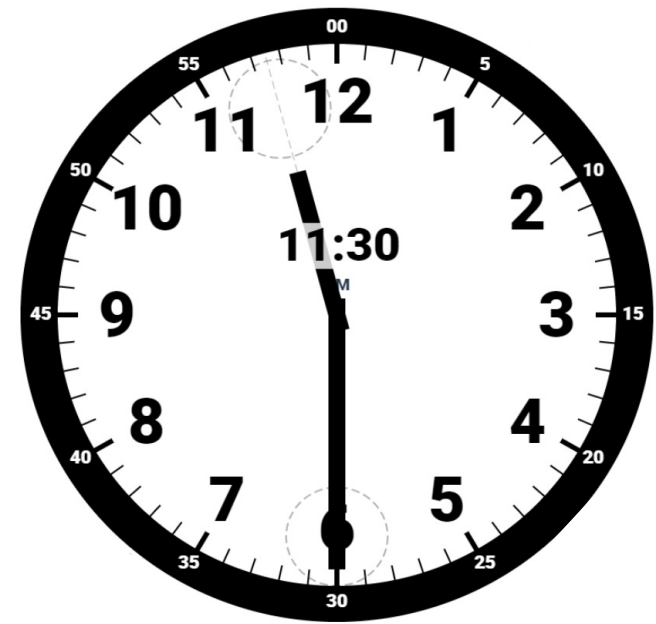
**NIHSS 7**

**GCS 13 (E4 – V3 – M6)**

**BP 130 / 75 – No Meds**

**HR 60 – 90 SR**





**Pupils are equal and reactive.**

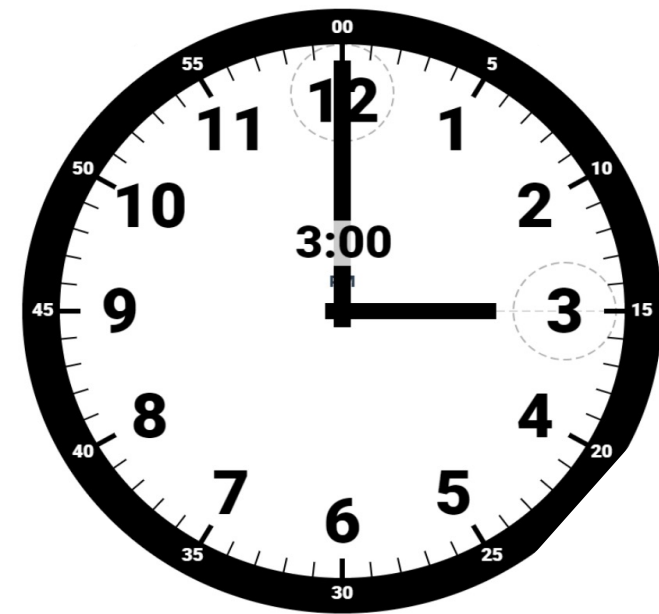
**NIHSS 8**

**GCS 12 (E3 – V3 – M6)**

**BP 150 / 100 – permissive hypertension**

**HR 50 – 70 SR**





**Pupils are equal and reactive.**

**NIHSS 8**

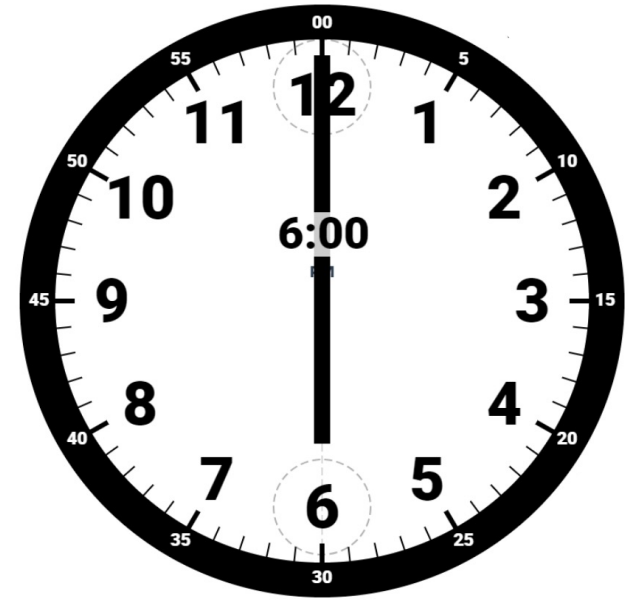
**GCS 12 (E3 – V3 – M6)**

**BP 170 / 100 – hydralazine PRN**

**HR 50 - 60 SR**

**CCRT called – not meeting criteria  
Neurosurgery called – no surgical criteria**





**Patient unstable**

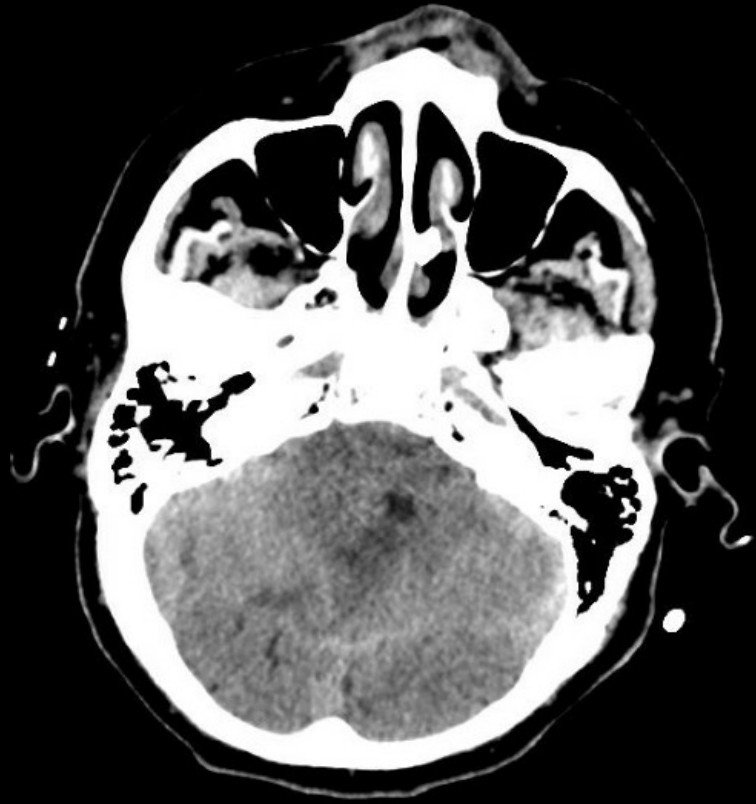
**Right pupils is sluggish.**

**GCS 9 (E2 – V3 – M4)**

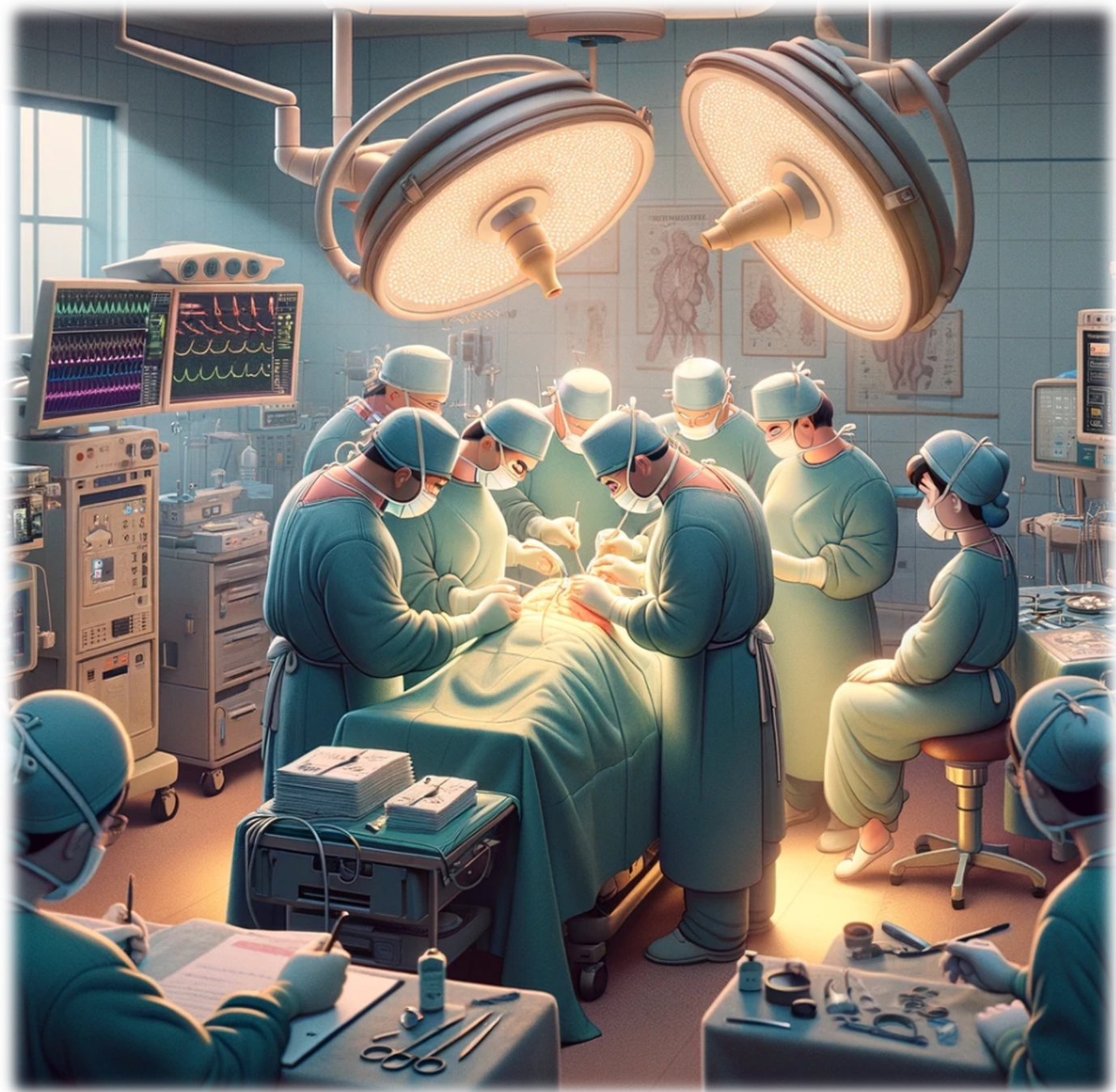
**BP 230 / 130 – hydralazine PRN**

**HR 40 - 50 SR**









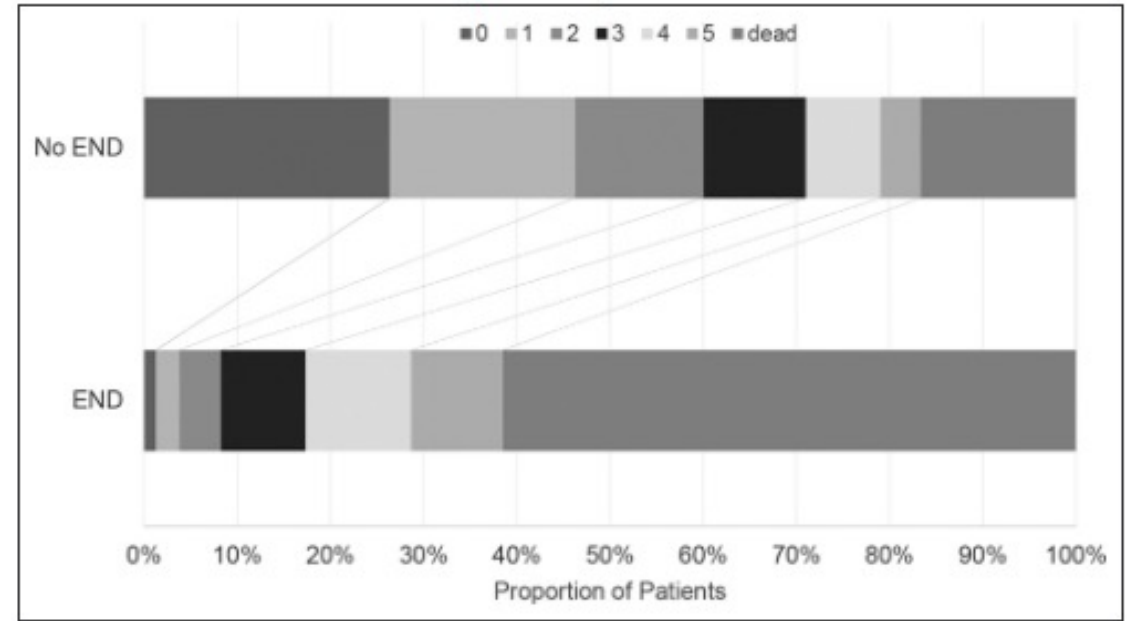
# EARLY NEUROLOGICAL DETERIORATION (END)

Stroke

CLINICAL AND POPULATION SCIENCES

The Incidence and Associated Factors of Early Neurological Deterioration After Thrombolysis

Results From SITS Registry



BMC Anesthesiology

76 % ICH vs 23 % ischemic stroke

80 % required intubation

64.5% died

RESEARCH

Open Access

Outcomes of patients admitted to the ICU for acute stroke: a retrospective cohort



**Early neurological deterioration in patients with acute ischemic stroke: a prospective multicenter cohort study**

END happens in 14% of patients with ischemic stroke  
62.5% occur in the first 24 hours

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72.9% expansion in 24 hours

75% increase of Perihematomal Edema (PHE) in 24 hs (up to 12 days)



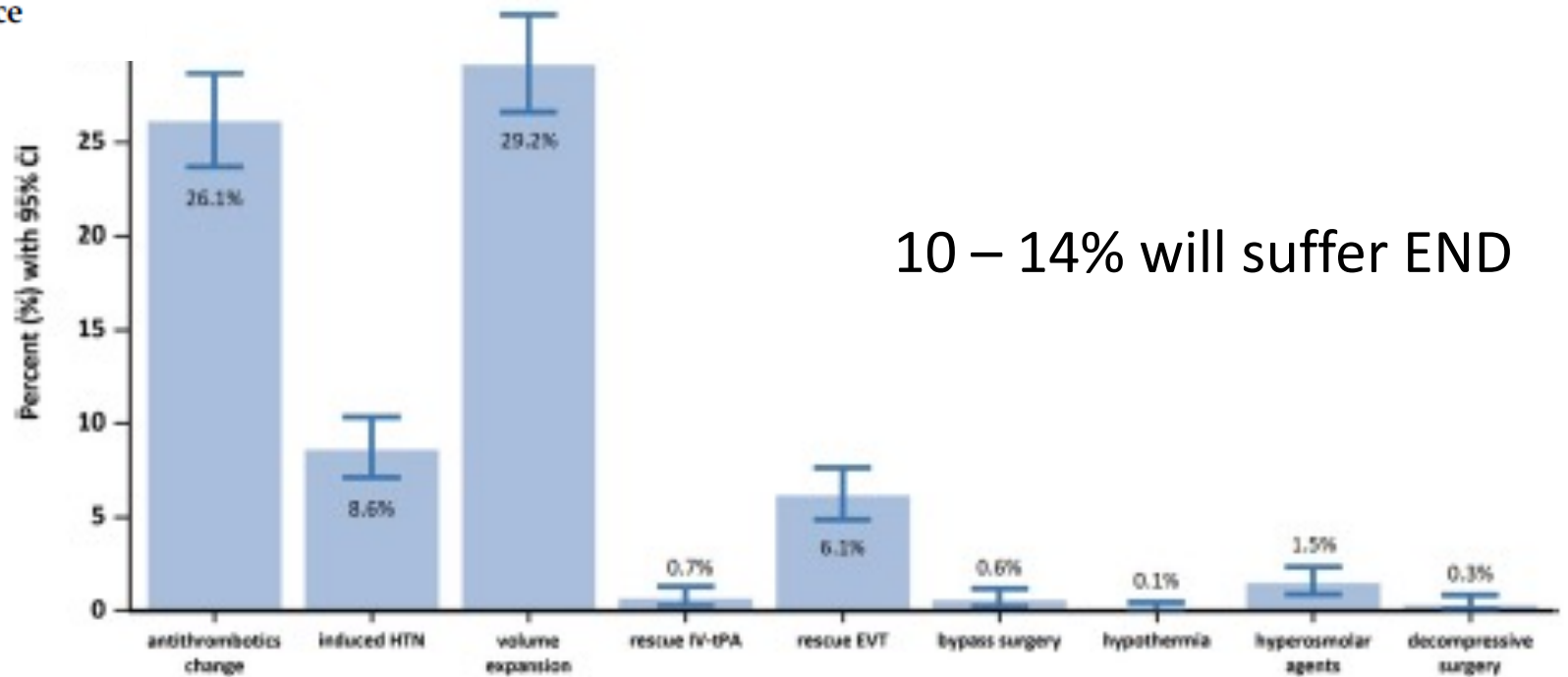
Stroke

TOPICAL REVIEW

Decompressive Hemicraniectomy for Large Hemispheric Strokes

10% of large MCA Strokes  
40 – 80% Mortality

Frequency, management, and outcomes of early neurologic deterioration due to stroke progression or recurrence



10 – 14% will suffer END

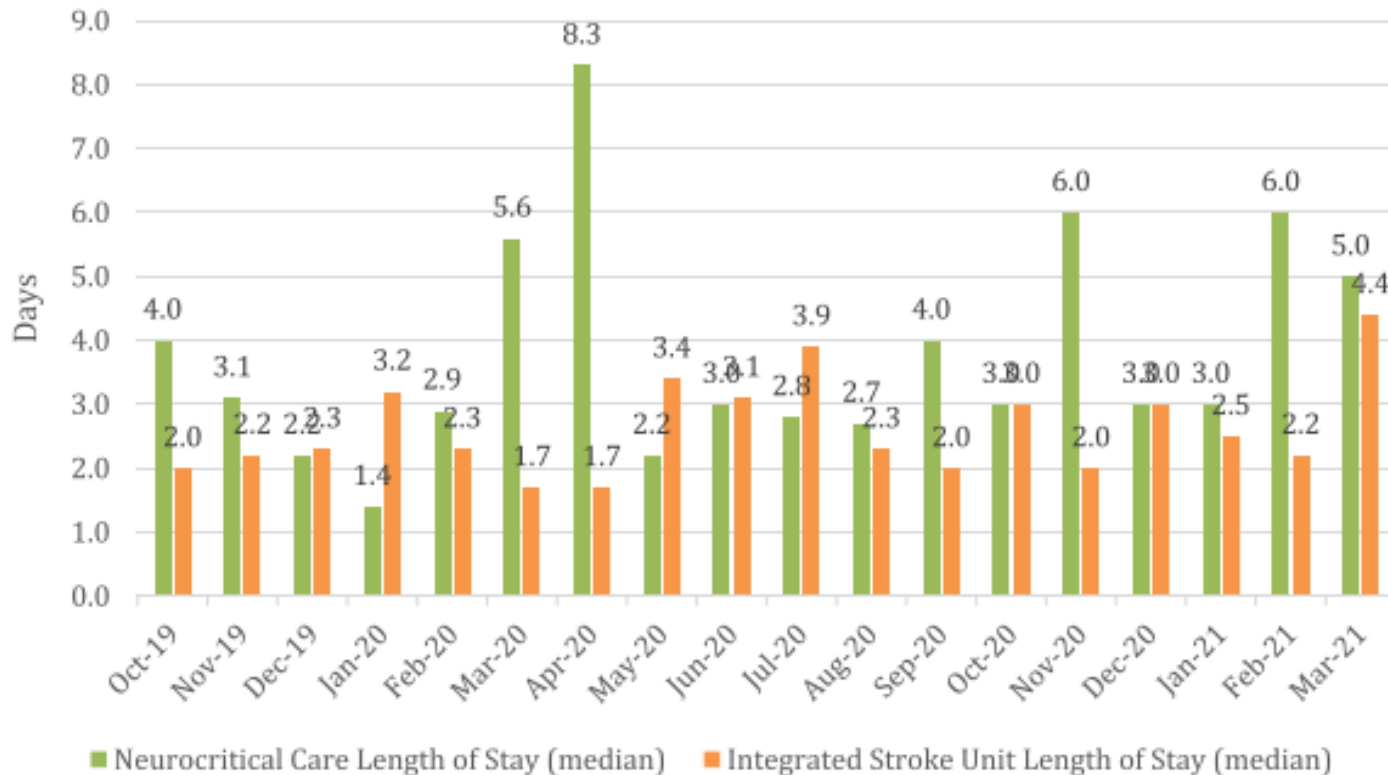
# NEUROVASCULAR STEP-DOWN UNIT (LEVEL 2)

## PULMONARY PERSPECTIVE

### The Role of Stepdown Beds in Hospital Care

Meghan Prin<sup>1</sup> and Hannah Wunsch<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Intermediate level of care  
 Don't require full intensive care  
 Not proper for the ward



Journal of Neuroscience Nursing

### Post-Thrombolytic Care Steps Up the Step-Down Unit

Michelle Hill, Steve Potkrajac, Keesha Cunningham

## Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery

Neuroscience step-down unit admission criteria for patients with intracerebral hemorrhage

The institution's protocol for monitoring stroke patients.

Capabilities	Step-down stroke unit	Neuroscience ICU
Nurse/patients ratio	1/4	1/2
Advanced monitoring	None	Arterial line, CVP, and ICP
Nursing monitoring (including exam)	Every 2 h	Every 1 h
Vital Signs	Every 2 h	Every 1 h
Coverage	Stroke neurologists + Neurology residents	Neuro-intensivists + Neurocritical care fellows
Invasive Mechanical Ventilation	No	Yes
External Ventricular Drain (EVD) monitoring	No	Yes
Medications	No IV sedation or IV pressor therapy is used	IV sedation and IV pressor are available



# LEVEL 2 – STEP DOWN UNIT



# LEVEL 2 – STEP DOWN UNIT



TWH-NVU 20 beds

Nurse patient ratio ½

Nursing monitoring Q1

Vasoactive drugs

Specific neuro (CNS) trained

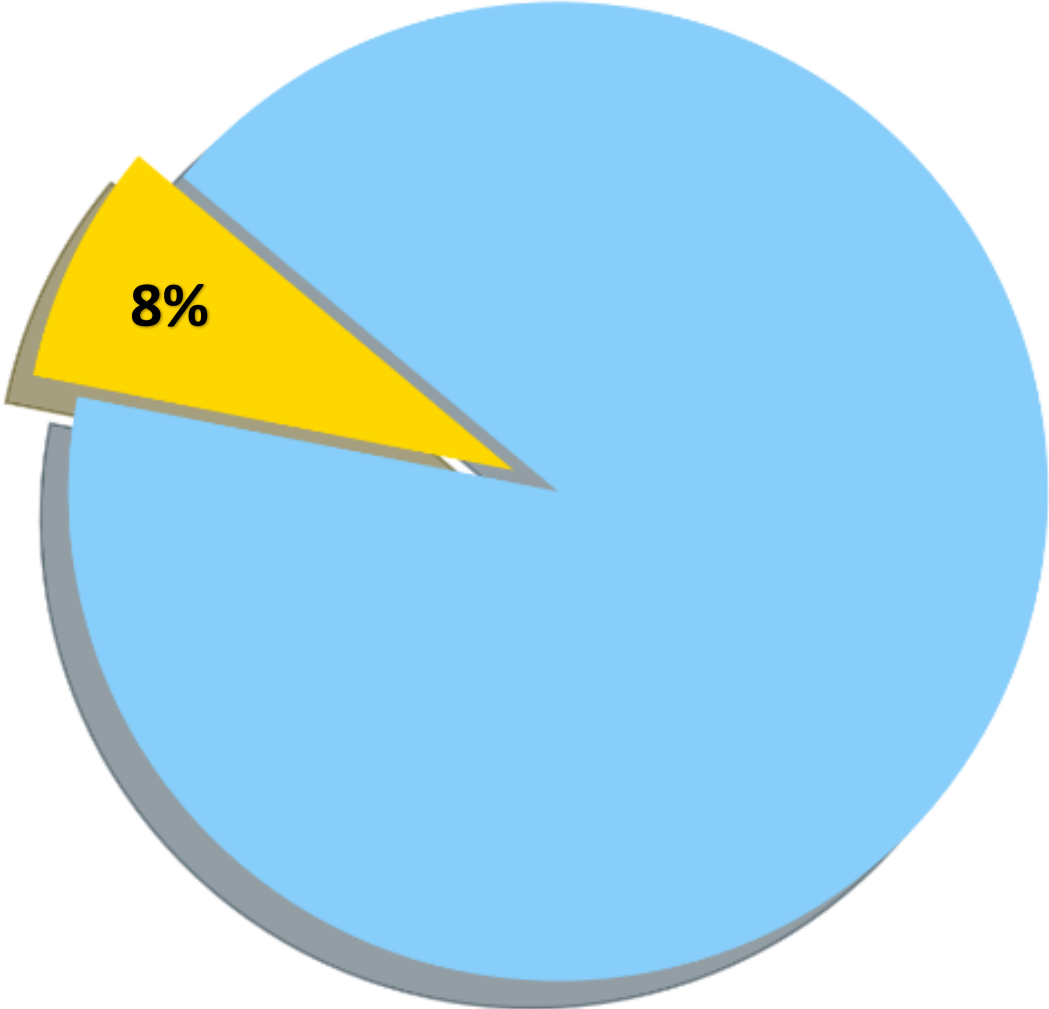
Code Stroke resource nurse



# QUALITY IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITY



# QI OPPORTUNITY



Level 2 transfers to MNSICU



“What if we could provide a safer care environment for those patients who are stable but have a high risk of deterioration?

Let’s say that they don’t have to be admitted to the ICU, increasing the efficiency in the use of healthcare resources.

And that is not all; we could also provide multidisciplinary education for residents, physicians and nurses. “

# Revolutionizing Surgical Care: The Power of Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS)

1. Build a multidisciplinary team
2. Follow evidence based guidelines
3. Audit outcomes and processes
4. Work in Quality Improvement cycles

Executive Sponsors  
**Dr. L. Casaubon**  
**Dr. A. Steel**

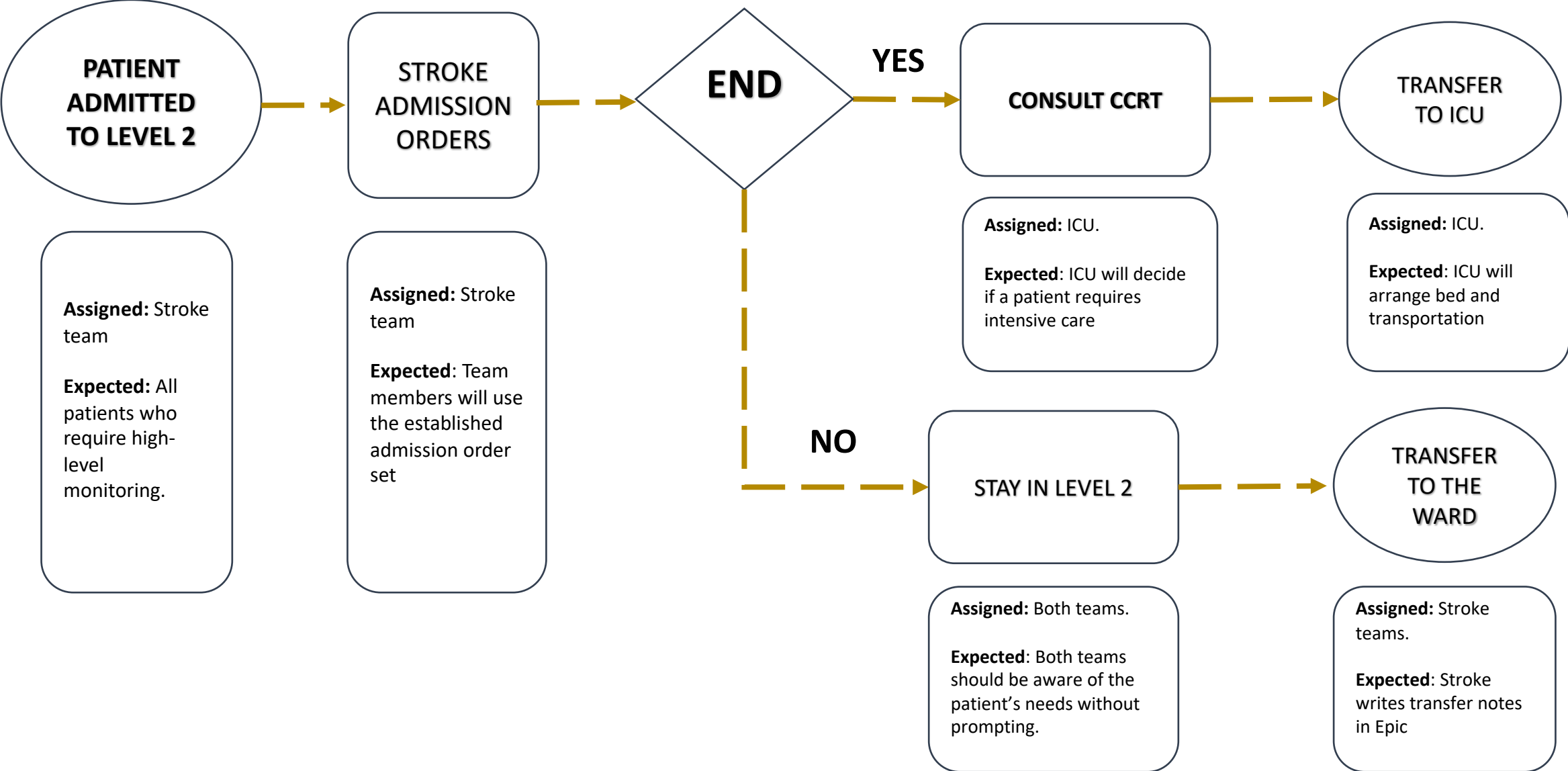
ICU Lead  
**Dr. I. Randall**

Stroke Team Leads  
**Dr. K. Sivakumar**  
**Dr. F. Carpani**  
**F. Akhtar**

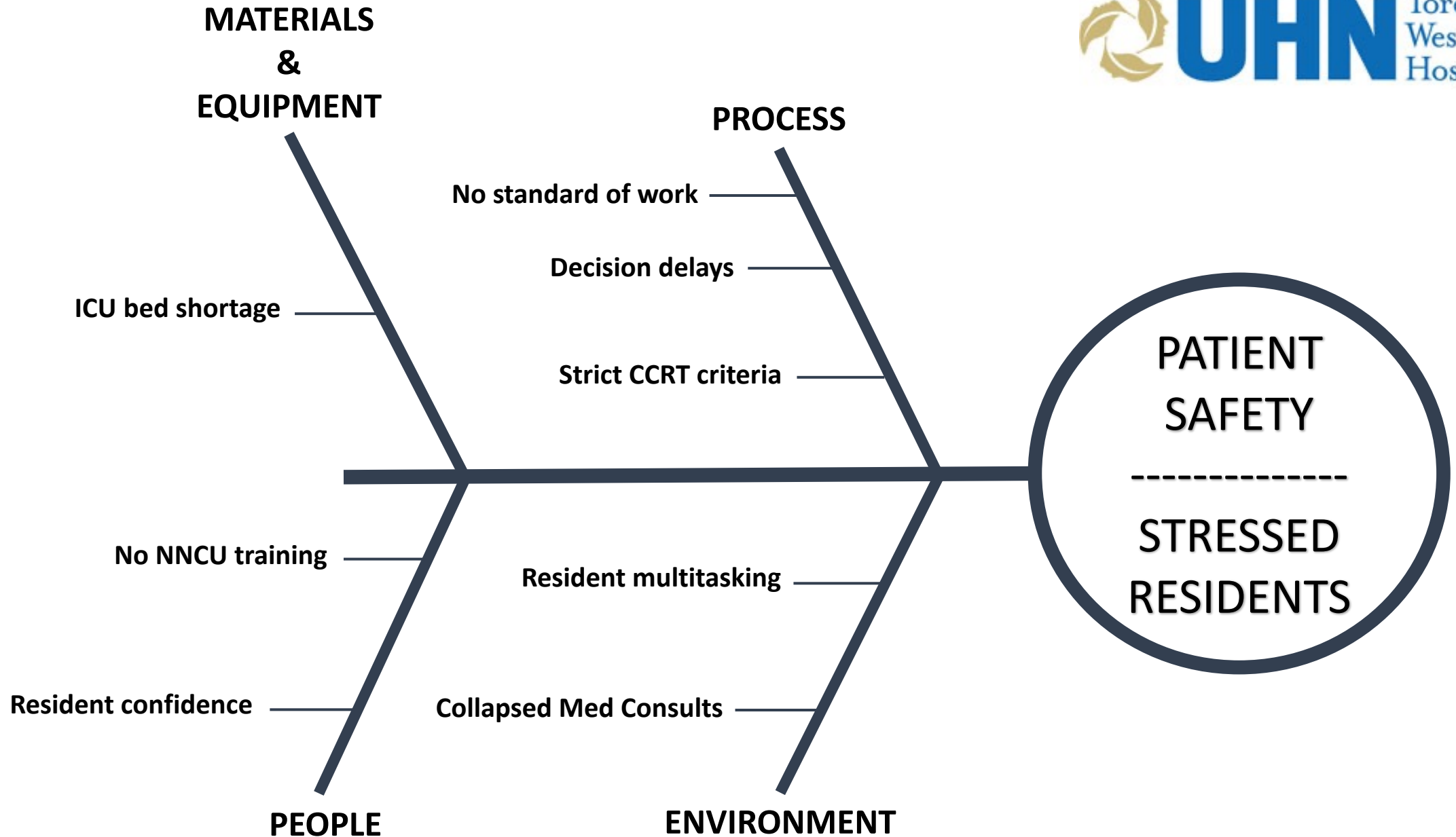
STAKEHOLDERS  
**Patients and families.**  
**Neurology and ICU Residents**

**Stroke and ICU Fellows**  
**Stroke NPs**  
**Level 2 Nurses**

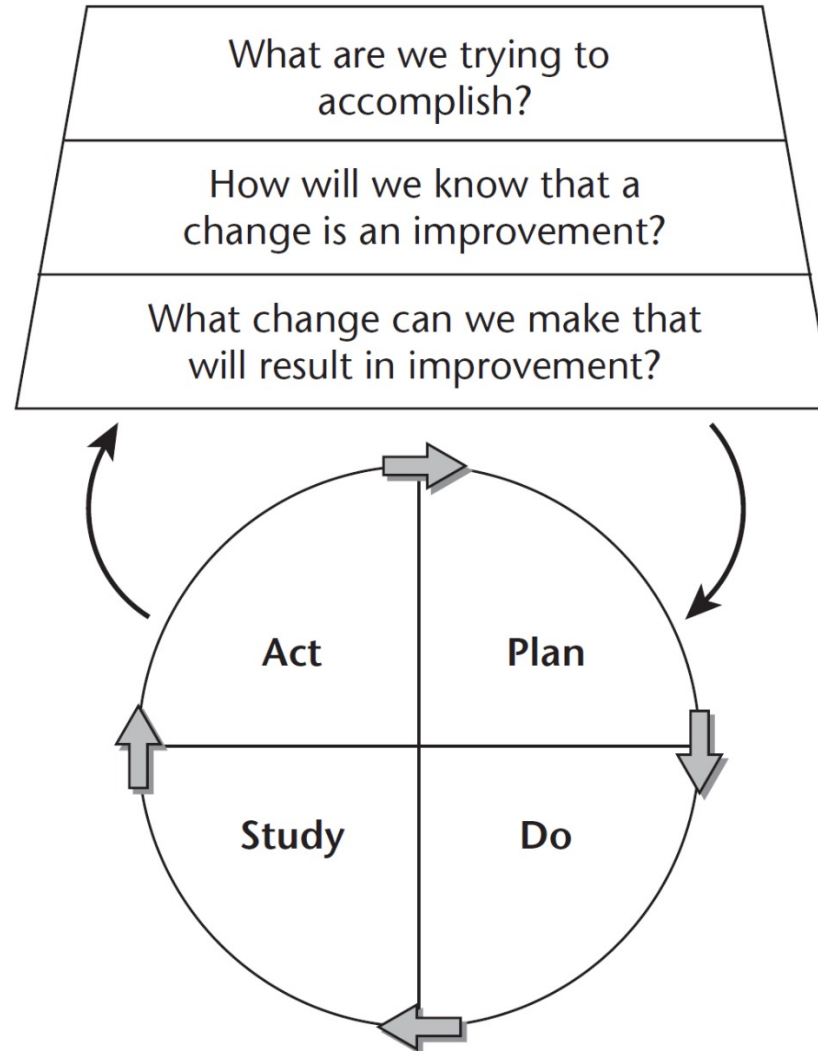
# OLD PROCESS: ADMISSION







# IHI MODEL FOR IMPROVEMENT



What are we trying to accomplish?



**IMPROVE  
LEVEL 2  
PATIENT  
SAFETY**

# What are we trying to accomplish?

**IMPROVE  
LEVEL 2  
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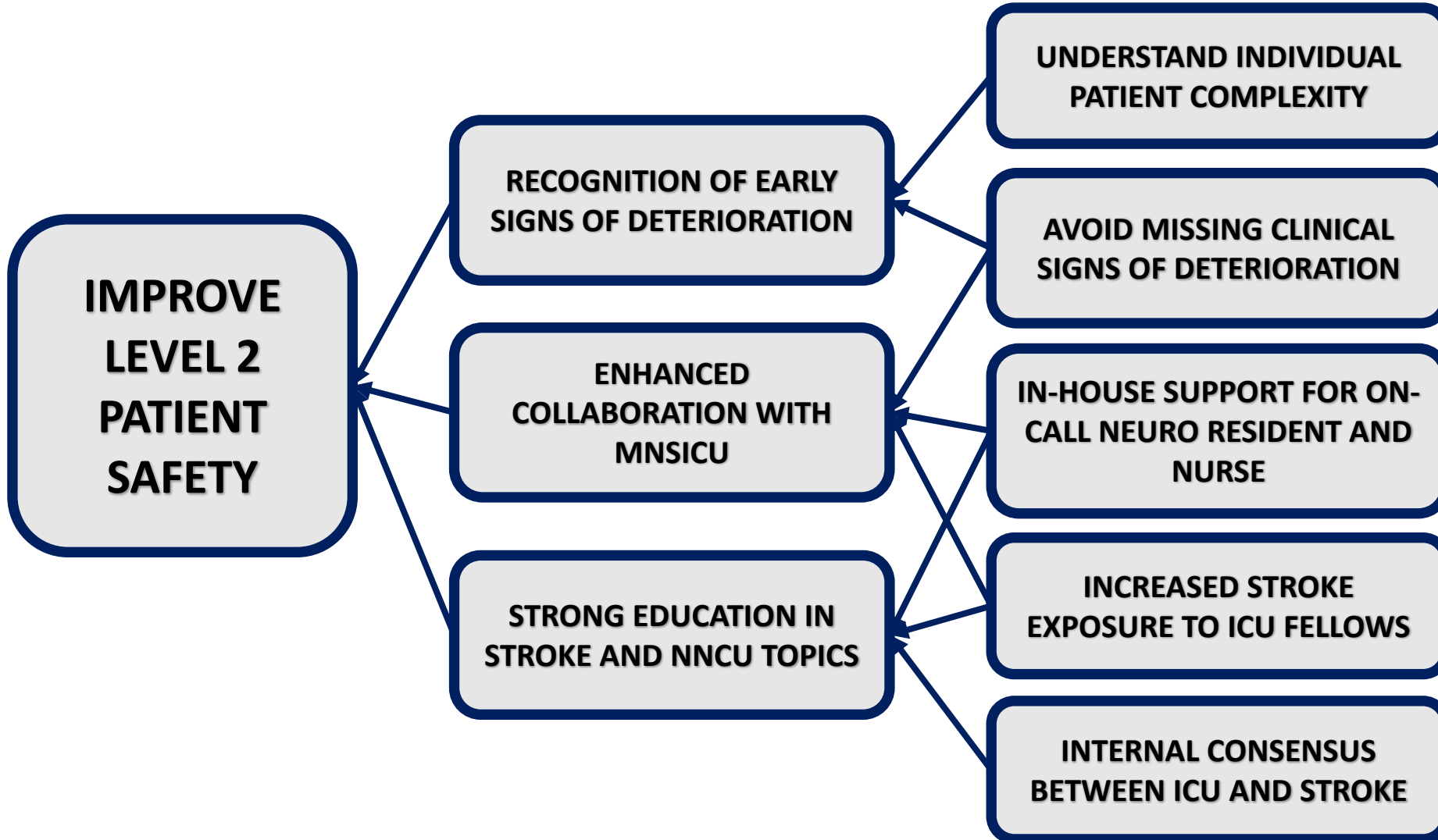
**RECOGNITION OF EARLY  
SIGNS OF DETERIORATION**

**ENHANCED  
COLLABORATION WITH  
MNSICU**

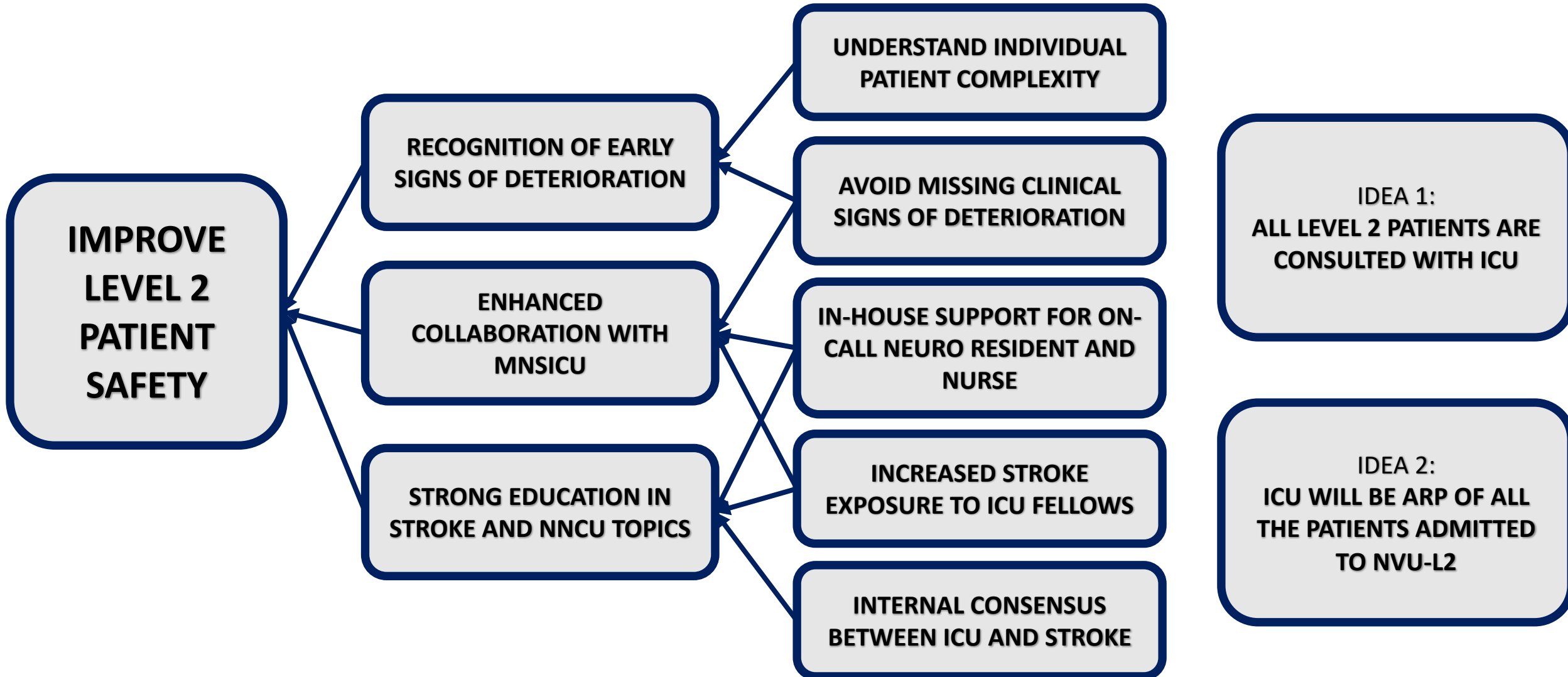
**STRONG EDUCATION IN  
STROKE AND NNCU TOPICS**



# What are we trying to accomplish?



# What changes will result in improvement?



What are we trying to accomplish?



**Enhance stroke patient safety and resident's education at NVU-Level 2 by consulting the ICU team for all admissions, aiming 90% coverage by July 2024.**





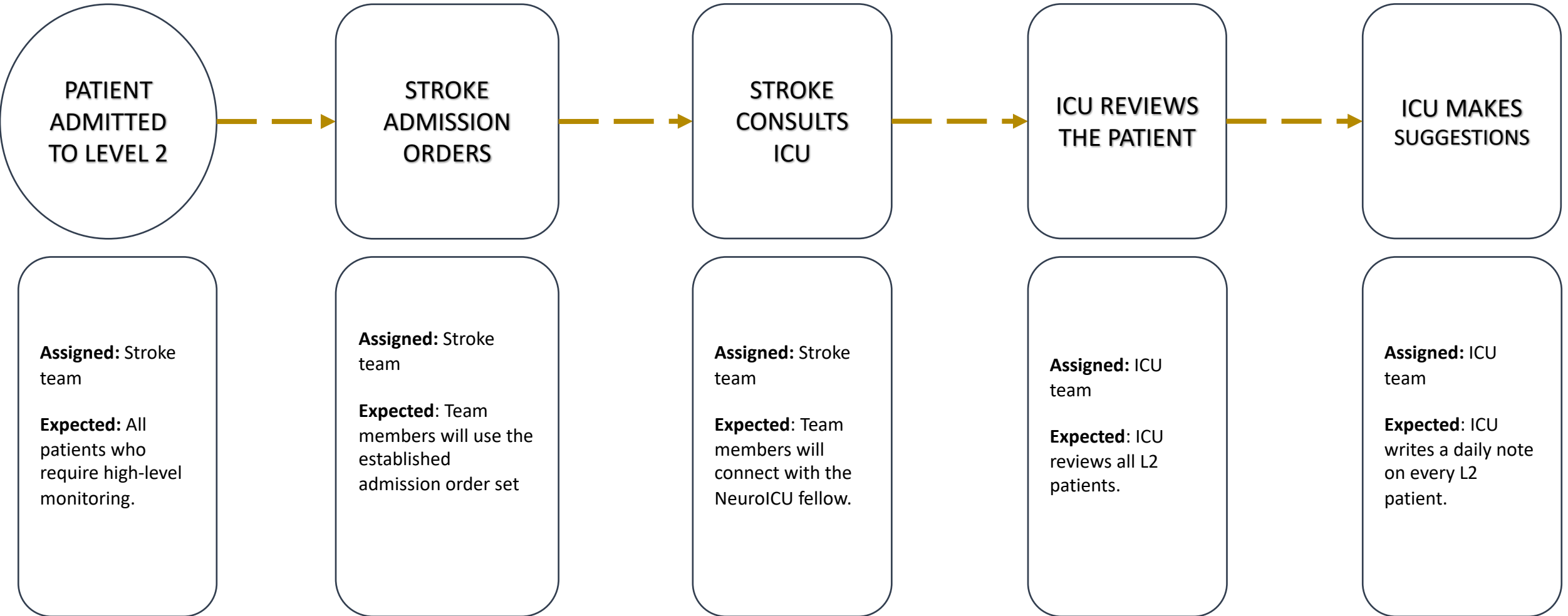
## 1. Standard Of Work (SOW):

### Consultations for stroke patients in ICU - Level 2.

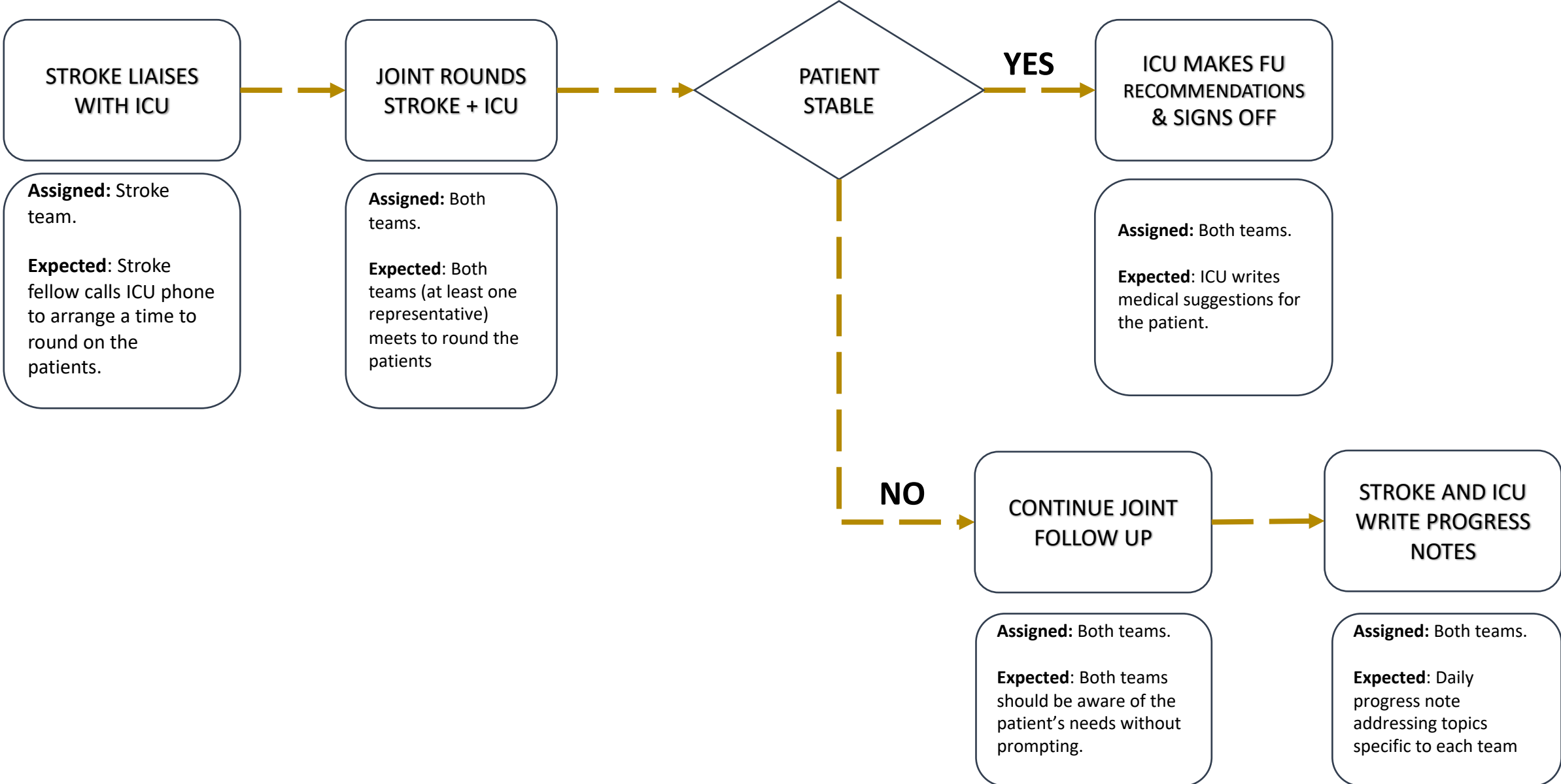
#### **Goals:**

- a) **Increased patient safety for complex medical care of stroke patients**
  - a. Predict and prevent decompensation from comorbidities and complications of stroke
  - b. Provide early and coordinated response to improve outcomes after a stroke
  - c. Improve patient and family experience and satisfaction by improved communication and updates from team members
- b) **Increased collaboration and communication between the Stroke Team and ICU**
- c) **Enhanced learner experience; with more significant support and education for Stroke and ICU teams (staff, fellows, NPs, Residents and RNs)**

# NEW PROCESS: ADMISSION

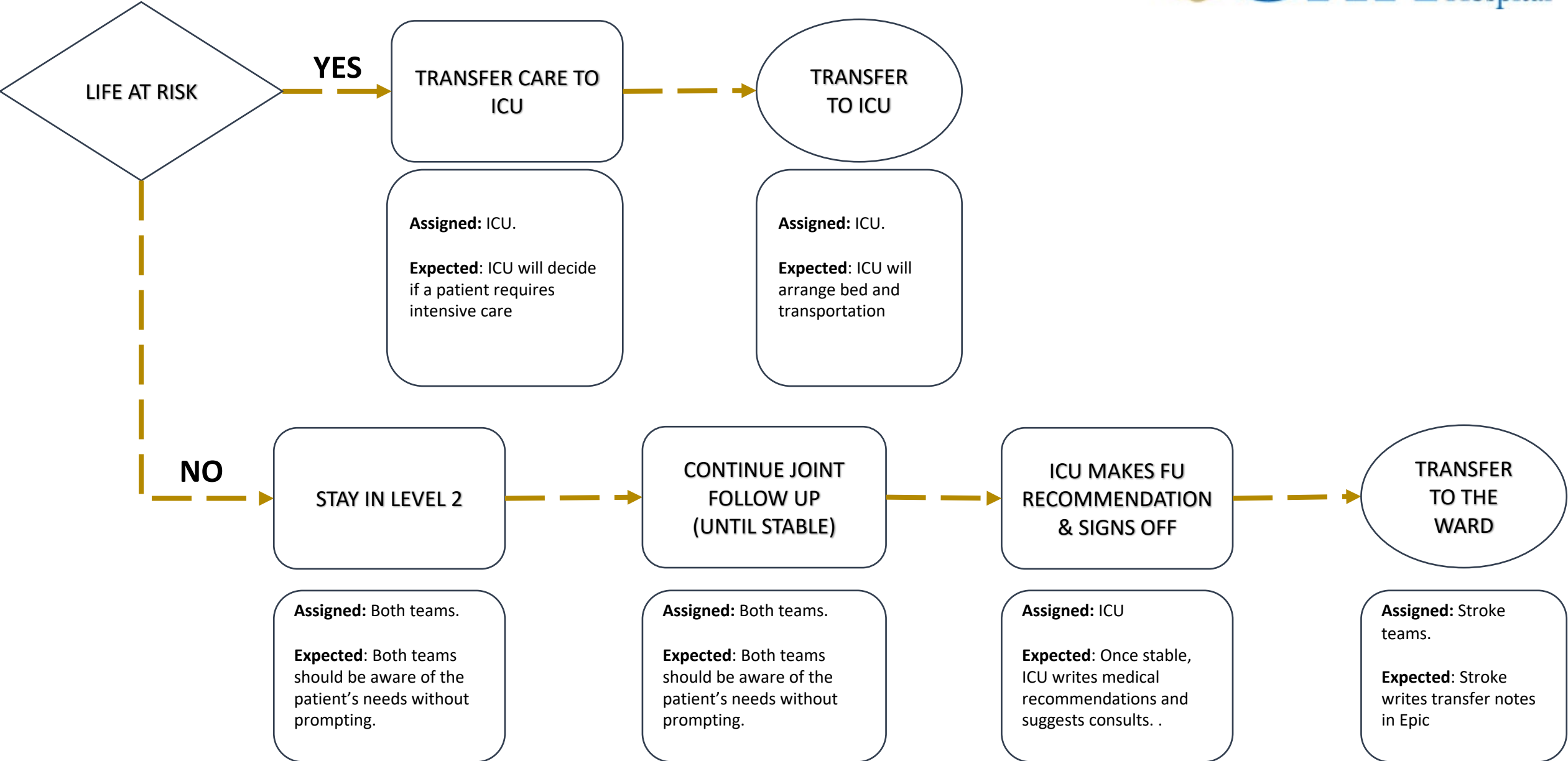


# NEW PROCESS: DAY ONE





# NEW PROCESS: DETERIORATION



BASELINE: March – June 2023



77 patients  
15 consults to CCRT (19%)  
6 transfers to ICU (8%)



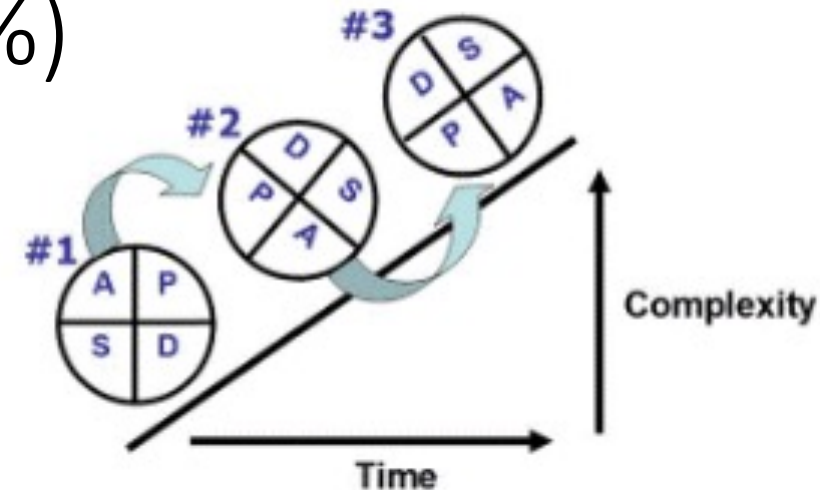
# PDSA 1: June – December 2023

## Pager communication

### 5 PM Huddle



131 patients  
91 Consults to ICU (70%)  
68 > 1 note (52%)  
11 transfers to ICU (4.5%)



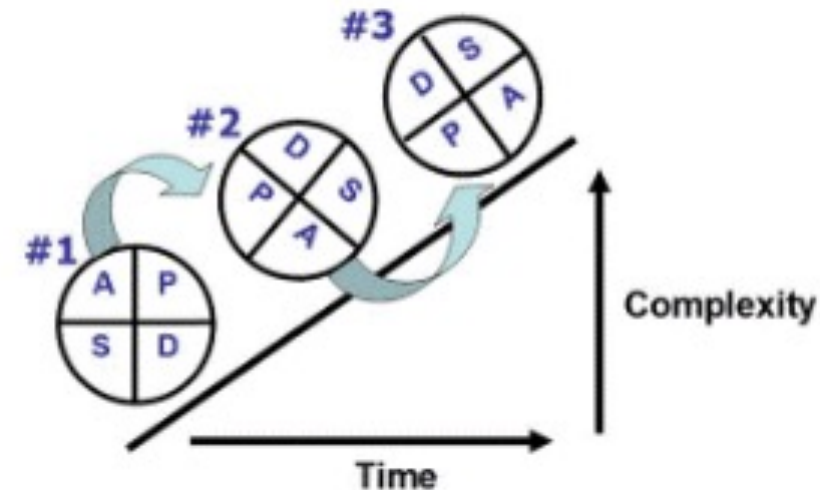


# PDSA 1: Issues

## Pager communication 5 PM Huddle

Process/SOW not properly shared

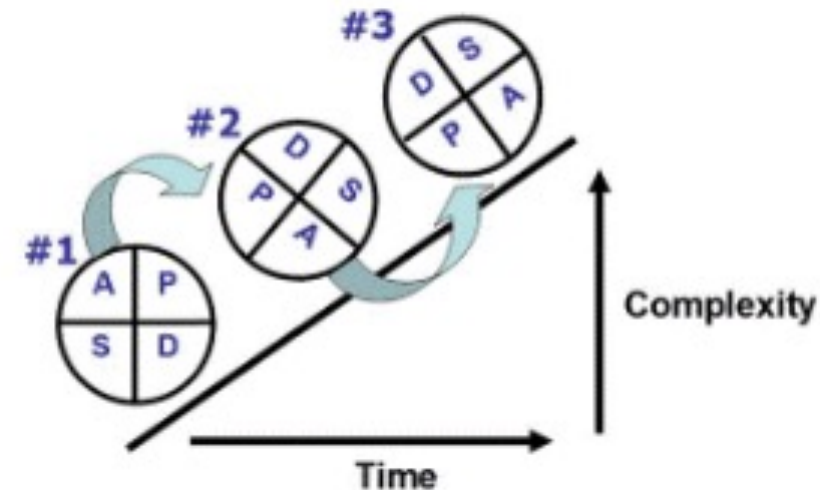
Difficulty gathering both teams



# PDSA 2: Dec 2023 – Jan 2024 Dedicated Telephone



38 patients  
30 Consults to ICU (79%)  
18 > 1 note (47%)  
3 transfers to ICU (8%)



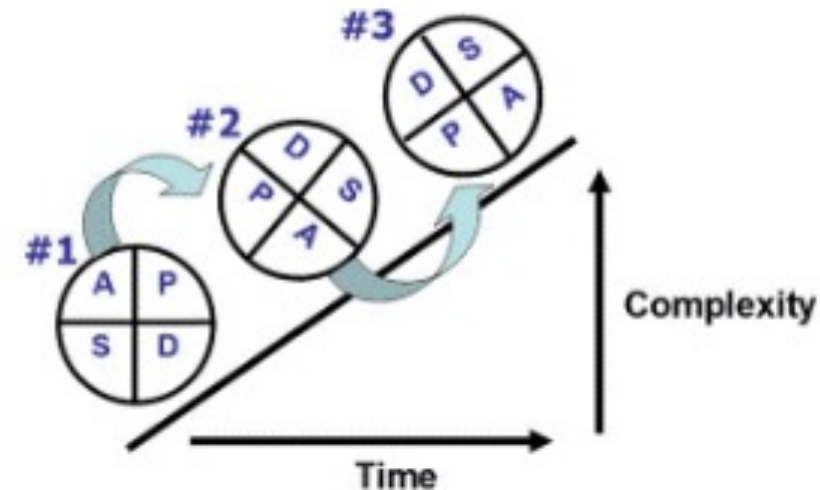
# PDSA 2: Issues

## Dedicated Telephone Morning call

Increased texting without patient info

Fear of interruption

Loss of momentum.



# PDSA 3: Future


Regular reminders  
Morning call

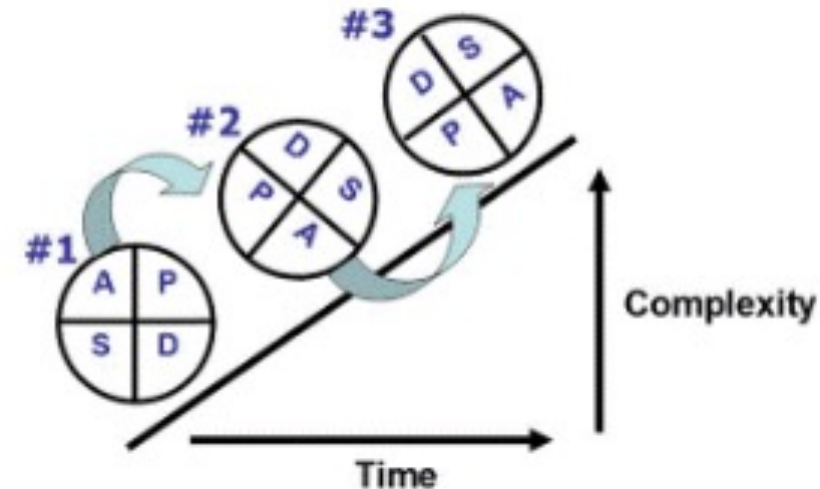


## Consults

Inpatient Consult to Intensive Care

Override Reason:

Comments: 





# QUALITATIVE FEEDBACK



Increased  
collegiality  
between teams

80% for Top 2 box  
from anonymous  
learner feedback



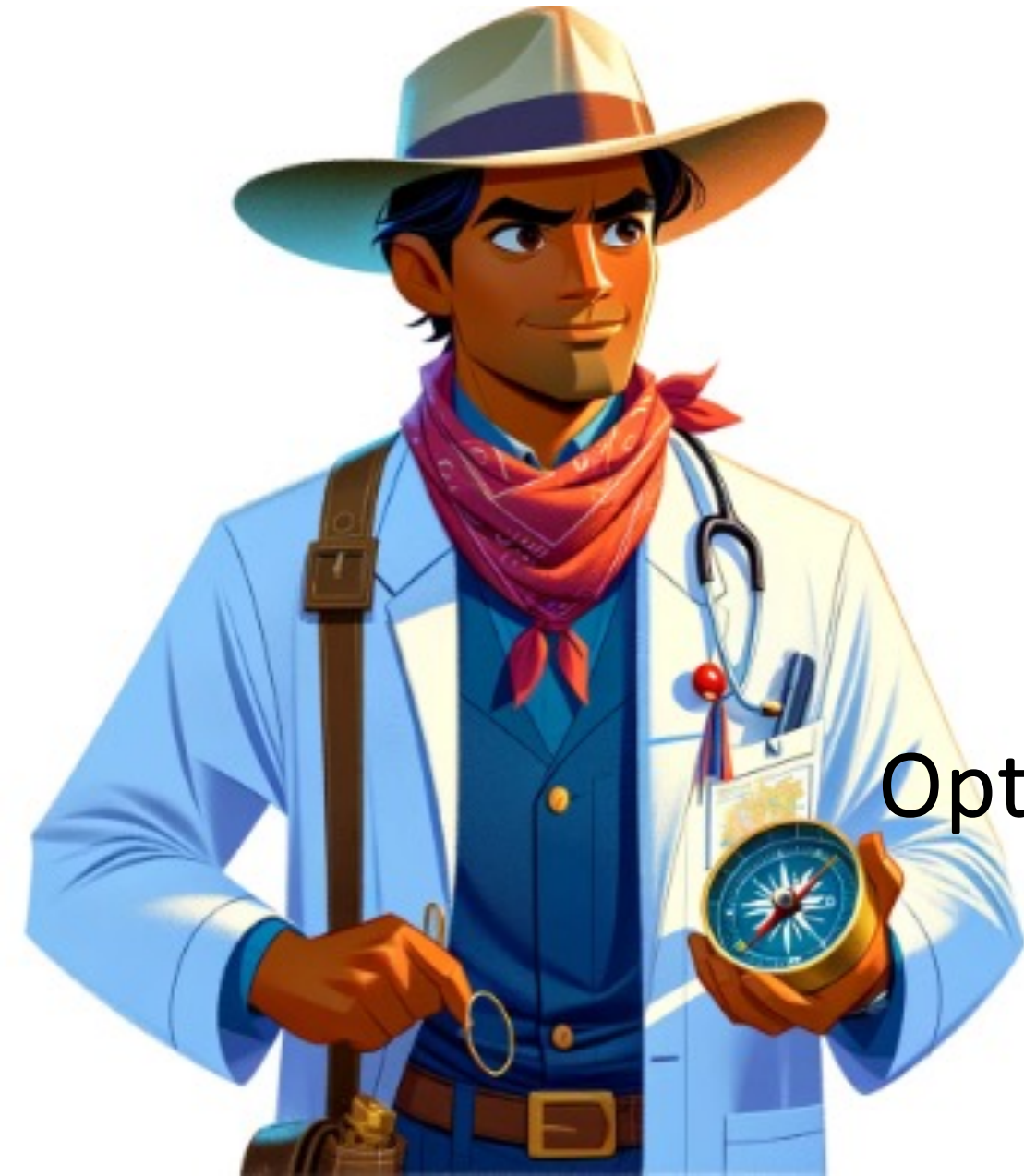
# NEXT STEPS



Joint education sessions

Increased collaboration

Optimization of implementation







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**Keith Sivakumar, MD, MBA**  
Neurologist, UHN Stroke Staff,  
Education Lead  
Keithan.sivakumar@uhn.ca

**THANK YOU!**



# Evaluation

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