

NOTES

Stroke Coordinators' Call August 28, 2024 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

I. Welcome

II. Join the Stroke Advisory Council:

- Quarterly meetings, work groups, monthly email Updates, website startwithyourheart.com, [Stroke System of Care](#)
- **Meeting:**
September 25, 2024 in-person at Atrium Health in Charlotte. We will also hold an **in-person Stroke Coordinators meeting** in conjunction with this Stroke Advisory Council meeting. Please plan to join us for the day: Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute, Kenilworth Medical Plaza 1, Levine Auditorium 1F, 1237 Harding Place, Charlotte 28204

Agenda for September 25, 2024

Stroke Coordinator Meeting 10-12 (Stroke Coordinators only please)
Lunch (provided) 12-12:30 (All are welcome; please RSVP.)
SAC Meeting 12:30-2:30 (All are welcome; please RSVP.)
Optional tour 2:30 (All are welcome; please RSVP.)

RSVP to [Anna Bess](#) to attend in person or join the SAC meeting virtually via MS Teams:

SAC Meeting 12:30-2:30

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 273 050 882 424

Passcode: YmrEyx

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 704-586-9720,,28182403#](tel:+1704586972028182403) United States, Charlotte

Phone Conference ID: 281 824 03#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

- Slides, minutes, recording of June meeting posted [here](#).

III. Business:

- Next Stroke Coordinators' meeting: September 25 at Atrium Health in Charlotte. RSVP to [Anna Bess](#) if attending in person. To participate virtually via MS Teams:

Stroke Coordinators' Meeting 10-noon

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 259 547 970 636

Passcode: 7YpxeP

Dial in by phone

[+1 704-586-9720,,149576288#](tel:+17045869720149576288) United States, Charlotte

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 149 576 288#

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

- Next call: October 23, 2024 from 2-3 pm. There was no July call.
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- All SC call slides, notes, and recordings are posted on our website. Follow this [LINK](#).

Request:

- Sylvia Coleman has free **Comprehensive Hypertension Guides** on the management of hypertension and related diseases. Email your name, credentials, location, and e-mail address to sylvia.w.coleman@outlook.com for your free copy. Offer expires Aug. 31.
- **Action Items:** Email Anna Bess Brown at anna.brown@dhhs.nc.gov if you'd like to help plan future Stroke Coordinator Calls. Thank you!

IV. Presentation:

Thanks again to our June Panelists who discussed 2024 AHA/ASA Performance and Quality Measures for Spontaneous Intracerebral Hemorrhage: **Pat Aysse**, AHA; **Eli Johnson**, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, **Michelle Comp**, Novant Health Thomasville, and **Erin Lewis**, UNC Rex.

August Panel: **Vagus Nerve Stimulation** presented by Michelle Geroleman, Stroke Program Patient Navigator, and **Amber Lewis**, Supervisor of Outpatient Rehab Services, from **WakeMed**; and **Karmesh Patel**, DPT from **Cone Health**.

Michelle and Amber presented WakeMed's process for planning, training, implementing, and marketing the new Stroke VNS Rehab Program. See their slides. Karmesh shared that Cone was the first hospital in NC to offer VNS early in 2023.

VNS is only meant for chronic ischemic stroke patients at least 6-months post stroke.

There is no upper limit on how long ago eligible patients experienced stroke; it could have been years ago.

Challenges include that using VNS is new for stroke, insurance approval can take time, and VNS requires intense rehab.

Medicare covers stroke VNS rehab.

Q: Is VNS available to the pediatric population?

A: Not that we know of. Ischemic strokes are more common in adults.

Q: Are there better outcomes if the procedure is done soon after the original stroke?

A: Not necessarily.

Q: Does the patient have to go in person to all of the therapy appointments?

A: Yes; the physical therapist directly stimulates the patient's brain during rehab.

Q: Is there is a center in TN that provides VNS therapy?

A: Unknown. See resources in slides for more info.

V. September 25th In Person Meeting

We will spend time in small groups getting to know one another, and we'll discuss stroke care plans and personalized education.

Suggestion for other topics for discussion: good ways to audit or improve neuro check vital sign compliance.

Nursing credits will be provided for those who attend both the Stroke Coordinators' meeting and SAC meeting.

V. Topics for Future Calls:

- Optimist Main (low frequency vital sign/neuro check monitoring)
 - Community Assessments
 - Disparities/Gaps in Care
 - EMS Education - cost effective, efficient
 - Stroke Support Groups including activities that SSG do to engage their stroke survivors and caregivers (important) and ideas for more large scale advertising
 - Improvements for Door In - Door Out Times
 - Success with low DIDO times for LVO patients - especially in rural hospitals
 - Strategies for increasing #s of Stroke Patients coming to the hospital via EMS, reducing privately owned vehicle (POV) arrivals including impact on hospital triage practices
 - Stroke Response Team: Successes and Lessons Learned
 - Improving Neuro Assessment Completion
 - Best Practices in transitional care after discharge
 - Community Resources
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- Stroke Awareness Month events/activities
 - Funding & tracking success of programs to provide BP cuffs
 - Stroke System of Care in NC (and compare to other states)
 - Community Paramedicine- utilizing, best practices, connecting
 - Stroke scanning, diagnosis and treatment in obese patients
 - Use of a QR code to share data with EMS or any other outside (of your facility) group. Other data sharing methods.
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