New York State Stroke Designation Program

Marcus Friedrich, MD, MBA, FACP
Chief Medical Officer
Office of Quality and Patient Safety
NYSDOH
Marcus.Friedrich@Health.NY.Gov

Jeanne Alicandro, MD, MPH
Medical Director
Office of Quality and Patient Safety
NYSDOH
Introduction
Current NYS Stroke Designation

- Currently 120 hospitals are designated as NYS Stroke Centers
  - Program is voluntary and not in regulation
  - NYS DOH evaluates and designates stroke centers
  - Designation is limited to Primary Stroke Center level
  - EMS stroke protocol includes triage to NYS designated centers
- Program includes NYS stroke care data collection and improvement
- >90% strokes were treated at NYS Stroke-designated hospitals
Risk Adjusted Mortality Rates, by Volume and Designation, 2013

Stroke RAMR and 95% Upper and Lower Bounds for the Confidence Intervals
Limitations of NYS Stroke Designation Program

- Challenges for alignment with evolving stroke guidelines and evidence
- Lack of regulation to guide DOH in administering the current program
- Lack of designation of higher levels of care, with consequent hospital pursuit of external accreditation
- Voluntary program, does not give the State the authority to be the only entity to designate
- Process might be insufficient to ensure program integrity
Current NYS Stroke Care Landscape

- 10 hospitals recognized as Comprehensive Stroke Centers by national accrediting organizations
- 37 hospitals performed intracranial endovascular procedures 2016-17
- EMS regions have begun implementing pilots for triage to higher-level stroke centers for suspected large vessel occlusions
New York State Stroke Designated Centers by EMS Region

Note: One facility that is not Comprehensive or Primary Stroke Designated performed an endovascular procedure.
Problem Statement:

NYSDOH requires regulations for the Stroke Program to

• Incorporate designation of tiered levels of centers (primary and higher level stroke centers) with regular re-designation

• Remain up-to-date with stroke guidelines and recommended treatment

• Require approval of accrediting organizations in NYS to ensure the criteria used for stroke center certification are consistent and meet the requirements of NYS.
NYS DOH Goals:

• Ensure access to quality, evidence-based stroke care for all patients across all levels of stroke center designation throughout NY State

• Establish a framework to support regional operationalization of transport processes for suspected stroke

• Continue full reporting of data for evaluation and monitoring of systems of stroke care
Stakeholder Involvement:
NY Stroke Designation Program Proposal
Proposed Regulations Update

Regulations are being proposed, and a new section §405.34 will be added to Title 10 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of NYS, to create a tiered voluntary stroke designation program and stroke system of care for hospitals in NYS.

**Highlights:**
- Participation is voluntary
- Purpose is to ensure high quality care is provided to patients at the right place and the right time.
- Regulations are written to create a sustainable stroke designation program that can evolve as new evidence emerges.
Proposed Regulations Update

Regulation Overview:
1. The Department will enter into agreements with accrediting agencies that will certify that hospitals meet criteria to provide advanced stroke care at various levels.
   a. The Department is currently developing criteria for Primary, Thrombectomy-Capable and Comprehensive Stroke Centers.

2. After being certified, hospitals will request designation from the Department for one of the levels.
   a. Establishes a process for withdrawing designation.

3. Hospitals with current Primary Stroke Center designation from the Department will have a transition period:
   a. Two years to enter into a contract with an accrediting agency;
   b. One year to complete the certification process after contract initiation.
Proposed Regulations Update

Regulation Overview (continued):

4. Designated hospitals will be required to communicate and collaborate with one another to provide appropriate access to care for stroke patients through a coordination agreement.

5. Designated hospitals will work with EMS at the regional and state level to establish regional and state stroke center designation protocols.

6. Designated hospitals will submit data to the Department to determine performance of the hospital and the system of care on an ongoing basis.

7. Designated hospitals will be required to participate in quality improvement activities on an ongoing basis.
NY State Stroke Center Designation Process

1. Accrediting agencies apply to the Department to become NYS stroke program “certifying agencies”.
2. Application is reviewed by the Department and the Commissioner of Health approves the accrediting agency to certify stroke programs at NYS hospitals.
3. Certifying agency performs surveys at NYS hospitals to determine if their stroke program meets the standards of one of the levels of stroke care.
4. NYS DOH designates the hospital as a NYS Designated Stroke Center, at the appropriate level of care, based on the recommendation from the certifying agency.
Accrediting Organizations

- Currently 4 accrediting organizations certify stroke centers nationwide (TJC/AHA, DNV, HFAP, CIHQ)
- Can apply to NYS for time-limited approval to certify centers in NYS
  - Application and approval process will include NYS DOH review of accrediting organization applications to ensure the certification program includes the NYS stroke center criteria determined by the Stroke Advisory Committee
- Designation process includes periodic re-designation reviews
Stroke Center Levels

- Primary Stroke Center
- Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Center
- Comprehensive Stroke Center
Data Collection

- Accrediting organizations will agree to collect all required data and measures and allow facilities to submit the required data to NYSDOH.
- For evaluation and comparison of results, all hospitals with any level of stroke designation will provide data so NYSDOH can monitor timely treatment and outcomes for patients experiencing strokes.
- Data requirements are informed by Stroke Advisory Group input.
Time Frame for Stroke Centers to Transition

• NYS Stroke Centers have two years to initiate the certification process with an accrediting organization approved by NYS to certify stroke centers.

• Once the process is initiated, existing stroke centers have one year to complete the certification process with the approved accrediting organization and receive DOH designation.

• Existing stroke centers that have not initiated the certification process with an approved accrediting organization within two years of the regulations being approved will lose designation as a NYS stroke center.
NYS Designated Primary Stroke Centers
without certification from an accrediting organization

Your hospital will continue to receive stroke patients and will be required to meet all NYS PSC standards, including submission of HERDS data, during this transition time period.

Hospitals interested in remaining stroke centers enter into contractual agreement with NYSDOH approved certifying agency.

A stroke certified hospital requests designation from NYSDOH to operate as a Stroke Center.

Start

NYS Stroke Regulations Adopted

2 Years

Hospital is certified as a stroke center at the Primary, Thrombectomy Capable, or Comprehensive level by the certifying agency.

3 Years

Hospitals who fail to act within this 3 year transition time period will no longer maintain stroke center designation.
NYS Designated Primary Stroke Centers
with additional certification from an accrediting organization

*Your hospital will continue to receive stroke patients and will be required to meet all NYS PSC standards, including submission of HERDS data, during this transition time period.*

Hospitals interested in remaining stroke centers enter into a new or modified contractual agreement with NYSDOH approved certifying agency.

A certified stroke hospital requests designation from NYSDOH to operate as a Stroke Center.

Start

2 Years

Hospital is certified as a stroke center at the Primary, Thrombectomy Capable, or Comprehensive level by the certifying agency.

3 Years

Hospitals who fail to act within the 3 year transition period will no longer maintain stroke center designation. Any certification received prior to the effective date of the regulation will not be recognized during regional stroke system planning.
Non-Designated NYS Hospitals
roadmap to stroke center designation

Stroke Designation is a voluntary program. NYSDOH will accept requests for designation from hospitals without existing designation/certification on a rolling basis.

NYS Stroke Regulations Adopted

Hospitals interested in becoming a stroke center enter into a contractual agreement with a NYSDOH approved certifying agency.

Hospital is certified as a stroke center at the Primary, Thrombectomy Capable, or Comprehensive level by the certifying agency.

A certified stroke hospital requests designation from NYSDOH to operate as a Stroke Center.
Questions