

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PHYSICIAN

STROKE PATIENT PACK



EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PHYSICIAN FORM

EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR INTRAVENOUS THROMBOLYSIS

NIHSS STROKE ASSESMENT FORM

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PHYSICIAN FORM

PATIENT NAME:

Objective: Confirm diagnosis of stroke and perform initial physical evaluation in less than 10 minutes

Time last seen before current symptoms started

Day

Time

☐

Symptom onset <4 hours ago

☐

Symptom onset >4 hours ago

☐

Time of onset unknown

Patient history and physical examination

NIHSS score

Absolute contraindications for thrombolysis

Significant lab results

Current medication (if any)

Additional comments

EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR INTRAVENOUS THROMBOLYSIS

ALL points of the checklist must be answered with NO for the patient to be treated with intravenous thrombolysis. If any of the following points are answered with YES; treatment with intravenous thrombolysis is contraindicated.

Contraindications for thrombolysis

Contraindications associated with a **high risk of haemorrhage** such as:

	Yes	No
Known haemorrhagic diathesis	☐	☐
Patients receiving oral anticoagulants, e.g. warfarin sodium	☐	☐
Manifest or recent severe or dangerous bleeding	☐	☐
Known history of or suspected intracranial haemorrhage	☐	☐
Suspected subarachnoid haemorrhage or condition after subarachnoid haemorrhage from aneurysm	☐	☐
Any history of central nervous system damage (i.e. neoplasm, aneurysm, intracranial or spinal surgery)	☐	☐
Recent (less than 10 days) traumatic external heart massage, obstetrical delivery, recent puncture of a non-compressible blood vessel (e.g. subclavian or jugular vein puncture)	☐	☐
Severe uncontrolled arterial hypertension	☐	☐
Bacterial endocarditis, pericarditis	☐	☐
Acute pancreatitis	☐	☐
Documented ulcerative gastrointestinal disease during the last 3 months, oesophageal varices, arterial aneurysm, arterial/venous malformations	☐	☐
Neoplasm with increased bleeding risk	☐	☐
Severe liver disease, including hepatic failure, cirrhosis, portal hypertension (oesophageal varices) and active hepatitis	☐	☐
Major surgery or significant trauma in past 3 months	☐	☐
Evidence of intracranial haemorrhage (ICH) on the CT-scan	☐	☐
Symptoms suggestive of subarachnoid haemorrhage, even if CT-scan is normal	☐	☐
Administration of heparin within the previous 48 hours and a thromboplastin time exceeding the upper limit of normal for laboratory	☐	☐
Prior stroke within the last 3 months	☐	☐
Platelet count of below 100,000/mm ³	☐	☐
Systolic blood pressure >185 or diastolic BP >110 mmHg, or aggressive management (IV medication) necessary to reduce BP to these limits	☐	☐

Contraindication based on **time**:

Symptoms of ischaemic attack beginning more than 4.5 hours prior to infusion start or when time of symptoms for which the onset time is unknown and could potentially be more than 4.5 hours ago	☐	☐
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Contraindications based on **stroke severity**:

Minor neurological deficit or symptoms rapidly improving before start of infusion	☐	☐
Severe stroke as assessed clinically (e.g. NIHSS >25) and/or by appropriate imaging techniques	☐	☐

Contraindication related to **age**:

Children under 18 years	☐	☐
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Additional contraindications:

Seizure at onset of stroke	☐	☐
Any history of prior stroke and concomitant diabetes	☐	☐
Blood glucose <50 or >400 mg/dl	☐	☐

RAPID STROKE ASSESSMENT NIHSS Stroke Scale

Short version¹

Administer stroke scale items in the order listed. Record performance in each category after each subscale exam. Do not go back and change scores. Follow directions provided for each exam technique. Scores should reflect what the patient does, not what the clinician thinks the patient can do. The clinician should record answers while administering the exam and work quickly. Except where indicated, the patient should not be coached (i.e., repeated requests to patient to make a special effort).

		Score		
		Admission	72 hours	Discharge
1a Consciousness	0 = Awake 1 = Drowsy 2 = Stuporous 3 = Comatose			
1b Orientation	0 = Month, age correct at first attempt 1 = One correct, or intubated, severe dysarthria or language barrier 2 = None correct or aphasic or comatose			
1c Following commands	0 = Obeys both correctly 1 = Obeys one 2 = Does not obey either command, or comatose			
2 Gaze	0 = Normal 1 = Partial peripheral paresis (N. III, IV, VI) or deviation that can be overcome 2 = Fixed deviation			
3 Visual field	0 = Normal 1 = Quadrant anopia or extinction 2 = Complete hemianopia 3 = Blindness			
4 Facial movement	0 = Normal 1 = Slight central paresis, flattened nasolabial fold 2 = Clear central paresis or paralysis 3 = Bilateral or peripheral paresis or coma			
5a Holding up left arm	0 = Arm held up normally for 10 seconds 1 = Arm slowly drifts partway down 2 = Arm quickly drifts all the way down 3 = Arm falls down 4 = No movement or coma			
5b Holding up right arm	0 = Arm held up normally for 10 seconds 1 = Arm slowly drifts partway down 2 = Arm quickly drifts all the way down 3 = Arm falls down 4 = No movement or coma			



RAPID STROKE ASSESSMENT – NIHSS Stroke Scale (short version)

		Score		
		Admission	72 hours	Discharge
6a Holding up left leg	0 = Leg held up normally for 5 seconds 1 = Leg slowly drifts partway down 2 = Leg quickly drifts all the way down 3 = Leg falls down 4 = No movement or coma			
6b Holding up right leg	0 = Leg held up normally for 5 seconds 1 = Leg slowly drifts partway down 2 = Leg quickly drifts all the way down 3 = Leg falls down 4 = No movement or coma			
7 Ataxia	0 = No ataxia, Pat. does not understand, paralysis or coma 1 = Ataxia in 1 limb 2 = Ataxia in 2 limbs			
8 Sensitivity	0 = Normal 1 = Mild sensory loss 2 = Total sensory loss or coma			
9 Language	0 = Normal 1 = Difficulty finding words, mild aphasia 2 = Clear difficulties in conversation 3 = Global aphasia, Patient mute or comatose			
10 Dysarthria	0 = No dysarthria 1 = Dysarthria, can be understood well 2 = Dysarthria, scarcely intelligible or Pat. does not answer, or coma			
11 Extinction	0 = No abnormality 1 = Extinction of one sensory modality or other signs of neglect 2 = Extinction of more than one sensory modality or coma			
Total				

Modified Rankin Score²

	4 weeks before the stroke (premorbid status)	24 hours after stroke	72 hours after stroke
0 = No symptoms 1 = Able to carry out all usual duties and activities 2 = Unable to carry out all previous activities but able to look after own affairs without assistance 3 = Requires some help but able to walk without assistance 4 = Unable to walk without assistance and unable to attend to own bodily needs without assistance 5 = Bedridden, incontinent and requiring constant nursing care and attention 6 = Dead			

ED physician, name	Staff number	Signature	Date
			Time

