

Huron Perth Stroke District 2010-2011 Summary of Accomplishments



Hyper-Acute: Fall 2010 was spent preparing Alexandra Marine and General Hospital (AMGH) as a telestroke site. The telestroke toolkit proved very helpful in the development of processes, policies and protocols for the administration of tPA to eligible stroke patients. Local EMS was supportive of the necessity of extending the catchment area for transferring patients to AMGH from the Kincardine area. A Memorandum of Understanding was revised to delineate the boundaries for bypass. Two education days were well attended by front-line nurses from the ICU and the Emergency Department. On November 24, Dr. Sahlas provided a four hour hyper-acute stroke workshop for the physicians and nurses at AMGH. On February 15, telestroke went live and by the end of the fiscal year, six patients had been remotely assessed via consult with a stroke neurologist, using telemedicine. Two of these patients received tPA.

“The Stroke Prevention Clinic provided comprehensive care to 140 patients at high risk for stroke. Hypertension remains the highest risk factor for these patients.”

Rehabilitation & Community Reintegration: At the other end of the continuum of care, the Community Stroke Rehabilitation Team served 84 new clients and received 91 new referrals, averaging two new referrals each week. They are carrying on average of 30 clients on their caseload and the 8 member team made a total of 3, 846 visits.

An aphasia presentation to more than 100 participants was made by Steve and Carol Goff on October 6. The Moving Forward Support Group met nine times this past year with 8 – 13 participants per session. The Living with Stroke Program, serving Stratford, Clinton and Goderich, was held five times. The ABC’s of Vascular Disease has had five 8-week sessions with an average of 5 clients and their caregivers per session.

The Stroke Rehab Candidacy Tool has been used on 60% of the acute stroke patients at the Stratford General Hospital and almost 30% of those patients have been admitted to the rehab unit. An additional ten stroke patients at AMGH have been screened via telemedicine and only one was not eligible for admission.