

# SWOSN District Stroke Centre Updates

The Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network is divided into 7 stroke districts as follows:

- **Erie St Clair LHIN** ([Map](#))

Erie St. Clair LHIN

- Windsor – Essex Stroke District
- Sarnia – Lambton Stroke District
- Chatham – Kent Stroke District

- **South West LHIN** ([Map](#))

South West LHIN

- Grey – Bruce Stroke District
- Huron – Perth Stroke District
- London – Middlesex – Oxford Stroke District
- Elgin – Oxford – Norfolk Stroke District

Each e-Blast will highlight updates from selected Stroke Districts.

See the entire SWOSN Regional Map [Here](#)



**South West LHIN Spotlight: Regional Stroke Centre  
London Health Sciences Centre - University Hospital**

## Welcome, Joanna Smorhay!



LHSC has welcomed Joanna Smorhay to the Stroke Navigator role. Joanna started her career in Sudbury, Ontario, working as an occupational therapist in the community and at Health Sciences North where she developed her initial passion for supporting patients and their caregivers of the Intensive Care, Cardiology and Intensive Rehabilitation Programs. Joanna maintains a special interest in supporting individuals with neurological conditions, especially stroke survivors along their journey. In January 2019 she relocated to London to join the medicine program at LHSC's Victoria Hospital and in early July she assumed the role of Stroke Navigator. In this role she shares her time with LHSC and St. Joseph's Parkwood Institute, supporting individuals who have experienced stroke and their caregivers to transition through the health care system.

## LHSC Code Stroke Protocols

LHSC is revising their Code Stroke Protocol, the process by which inpatients are assessed if they are showing signs of a stroke. This work is ongoing, involving input from stakeholders at University and Victoria Hospitals, and is supported by SWOSN. Their new Code Stroke Protocol will go live in 2020, following education across both sites and multiple disciplines.

## Stroke Distinction at LHSC



Stroke Distinction work is underway at LHSC. Their inter-professional working group has reviewed the gap analysis and has identified priorities. As the Regional Stroke Centre, LHSC continues to develop quality improvement initiatives that align with Best Practices and Accreditation Canada requirements. Recently, they have welcomed Michelle Pierce to their team as a Project Manager to help organize and support this work and are busy planning the launch of this important project.

## Stroke Report Card Results Are In!

On the 2018/19 Stroke Report Card, the London Middlesex sub-region of the South West LHIN was recognized as the highest provincial performer for the proportion of stroke patients who received the clot busting drug tPA. The provincial benchmark for this indicator is 17.7 percent and our region has exceeded this with 20.1 percent of patients receiving tPA. LHSC's provision of timely access to the tPA (measured as door to needle time) was strong at 38 minutes. This data confirms LHSC's stroke team is experienced with identifying and assessing patients for tPA eligibility, and are working well to ensure that patients get timely access to best practice stroke treatment.

