

Top tips for stroke prevention in primary care

Support for primary care to optimise management of patients with atrial fibrillation

Our pilot indicated that to maximise success in stroke prevention the following should be in place:

- Local GP champion to enthusiastically promote better management of AF and encourage stroke prevention work
- IT support for practices to download GRASP-AF and upload baseline results to CHART-Online
- IT support to train practices to use GRASP-AF confidently in future
- Online and telephone advice on GRASP-AF technical issues from www.improvement.nhs.uk/graspaf
- Arrhythmia Nurse Specialist from a local hospital to provide education and support to practices on
 - The management of atrial fibrillation including anticoagulation to prevent stroke
 - Fostering closer links and improved communication between primary and secondary care
- Arrhythmia Nurse Specialists to provide flexible and responsive education according to practice needs
- Use of South London Cardiac and Stroke Network
 - AF Pathway for primary care
 - Arrhythmia Traffic Lights
- Stroke prevention initiatives part of wider programme of education on AF and anticoagulation throughout the borough
- Improvement in AF management and success in stroke prevention demonstrated as practices upload anonymised data to CHART-Online
 - At baseline and
 - After patients reviews

For further information and resources please visit the South London Cardiac and Stroke Network AF web pages on www.slcsn.nhs.uk/af.



South London
Cardiac and Stroke Network

South London Cardiac and Stroke Network

Connecting patients, carers and professionals across the region

Patient focus

The SLCSN connects with patients to listen to their views and work to implement them into the pathway. They create standardised resources for healthcare professionals to use in everyday practice to improve communication with patients and their understanding of their treatment.



Commissioning

The SLCSN maintains an unbiased link between commissioners, clinicians, managers, front line staff and patients, working to represent the best interest of patients. This neutrality extends to arbitration and negotiation between commissioners and providers, driving quality improvements at a more rapid pace.

The Network's commissioning expertise spans the spectrum:

- Development of strategy
- Clinical and service user engagement
- Pathway development
- Brokering and facilitation
- Transforming evidence into practice
- Driving improvement through benchmarking and performance monitoring
- Developing service specifications

Collaboration

Network collaboration extends from patients and the public through primary, secondary and tertiary care to advance cardiac and stroke care in the capital.



The SLCSN also teams with the London Ambulance Service, voluntary organisations and local involvement networks to promote prevention efforts, best practice and standardised protocols.



Education

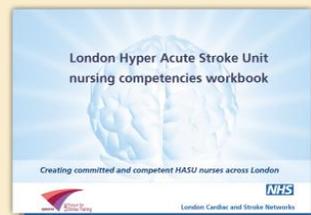
For GPs, nurses and other clinical professionals, the SLCSN offers education events covering a broad range of topics, such as the prevention of stroke, the management of atrial fibrillation and national clinical guidance and best practice.



Resources to improve clinical and financial outcomes

Spanning the patient pathway both vertically and horizontally, the SLCSN develops resources for patients, GPs, commissioners and more.

We possess a high-level understanding of challenges that exist across the capital yet also a firm grasp of practical implementation at local level.



Pilot programs

The SLCSN works with local sites and organisations to implement pilot programmes which, upon proven success, are rolled out across the sectors.



Connecting healthcare across South London.

The South London Cardiac and Stroke Network brings together patients, GPs, commissioners and providers for improved patient outcomes along the entire pathway.



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