STOP STROKE[®]: Acute care coordination medical application; a brief report on post implementation performance at a primary stroke center.

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Take Home Points







Objective

The objective of our study is to evaluate the effect of the Pulsara Stop Stroke[©] medical application on door-to-needle (DTN) time in patients presenting to our emergency department with acute ischemic stroke (AIS). The secondary objective was to evaluate the DTN performance of dedicated neurohospitalists vs. private practice neurologists covering emergency department stroke call, with and without Stop Stroke[©] app usage.

Methods

We conducted a retrospective cohort study of the Good Shepherd Health System stroke quality improvement dashboard for an 18-month period between February 2014 and August 2015. The dashboard tracks metrics on stroke cases receiving Tissue Plasminogen Activator (TPA) at our primary stroke center with annual emergency department volume of 90k. We analyzed all data from cases receiving TPA for AIS during the study period. The primary outcome was comparison of mean door-to-needle (DTN) time performance in cases with and without app usage. Secondary outcome was the comparison of mean DTN time between neurohospitalist and private neurologists with and without use of Stop Stroke©.

Results

During the study period, there were 85 stroke activations receiving TPA (63 with Stop Stroke©, 22 without). In cases where the app was used, we observed a reduction in mean DTN time of 40 minutes, 87 minutes to 47 minutes, a 46% reduction (p=<0.001). There was no significant difference in DTN time observed between the neurohospitalist and private neurologist performance independent of app usage, with a mean DTN of 47 minutes seen for both groups using the app (p=0.87) and 88 minutes and 85 minutes respectively without app use (p=0.81). Mean DTN <60 minutes improved with app use from 18% to 85% with Stop Stroke©.

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Conclusions

In patients arriving to our primary stroke center with AIS, use of Pulsara Stop Stroke© acute care coordination app decreased mean DTN time by 40 minutes. This time reduction represents a significant 46% improvement in this metric and is consistent with the effect seen in our original analysis after implementing the app at our institution. We further observed a 3.7x improvement in DTN <60 minutes with use of the app.

Institutions

Tameside Hospital

NHS Foundation Trust





