

STROKE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2020

NC Division of Public Health, Cardinal Room

5605 Six Forks Road, Raleigh NC

1 - 3 PM

Members/Partners

Present: Wally Ainsworth, NC Office of Emergency Medical Services; Melanie Blacker, FirstHealth; Tara Box, Novant Health; Stephanie Bradbury, Chiesi; Anna Bess Brown, Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force (JWHDSPTF); Felecia Bryan, AHA; Tory Cairns, WakeMed; Shannon Chesney, Duke Raleigh, Duke Regional; Alicia Clark, Division of Public Health (DPH), Community & Clinical Connections for Prevention & Health (CCCPH); Arnett Coleman, Old North State Medical Society; Sylvia Coleman, COMPASS Study, WFBH; Ron Cromartie, Innovative Healthcare Consulting; Tom Curley, New Hanover Regional Medical Center (NHRMC); Danika Davis, Emergency Services, Granville Health System; Nada El Hussein, Duke Neurology; Michael Erwin, stroke survivor; Abby Fairbank, American Heart Association (AHA); Heather Forrest, Duke; Melissa Freeman, Stroke Program, Duke; Derek Gibson, Portola Pharma; Sara Ginn, Wayne UNC; Emily Gobble, Central Carolina Hospital; Ashley Graham-Jones, Cape Fear Valley Medical Center (CFVMC) Bladen; Larissa Hill, WakeMed, Neurosciences; Amy Jones, Novant; Moe (Maureen) Jones, Stroke Survivor; Joanna Keeter, Vidant Edgecombe, Mary Jo Kelley, WakeMed; Nicole Kelly, Onslow Memorial; Hervey Kornegay, NC Assn Rescue & EMS; Diomelia Laues, CFVMC; Melissa Loranger, Matthews Medical Center, Novant Health; Sarah Lycan, WFBH; Lisa Monk, Duke IMPROVE Stroke Care; Kathy Nadareski, WakeMed; Karen Norman, Novant Health; Peg O'Connell, Chair, Stroke Advisory Council; Jonathan Pernell, Granville EMS; Joey Propst, JWHDSPTF; Kristy Reese, Stroke Coordinator, NHRMC; Shree Shah, Duke Health, Neurology; Carrie St. Germain, CFVMC; Lauren Stevenson, NHRMC; Chuck Strickland, EastCare Outreach, Vidant; Wayne Sullivan, Janssen; Chuck Tegeler, WFBH, Neurology; Cathy Thomas, CCCPH Branch Head, DPH; Jackie Thompson, UNC Rex Healthcare; Gwen Wise-Blackman, Minority Women Health Alliance; Davonnetrae Worthy, Janssen; Erika Yourkiewicz, NHRMC.

By phone: Amanda Coble, Stroke Coordinator, Davis Regional Medical Center; Wayne Feng, Duke Stroke Center; Amy Ising, NC DETECT; Janie Jaberg, Wayne UNC Healthcare; Ed Jauch, Mission Health; Robin Jones, Mission Health; Karen Marshall, Atrium; Barb McGrath, FirstHealth; Nicole Miller, Center for Health & Wellness, UNC Asheville; Jennifer Massey, Alliant; Mehul Patel, UNC Dept. of Emergency Medicine; Birtha Shaw, Diabetic Supply.

Welcome, Introductions

Vice Chair Chuck Tegeler welcomed all and invited everyone participating by phone and in person to introduce themselves.

Dr. Jauch and Dr. Tegeler shared that SAC member Pam Duncan was recently honored by receiving the David Sherman award at the International Stroke Conference. Congratulations to Pam for her life's work and for this award.

Approval of November 14, 2019 Minutes

Peg O'Connell made the motion to accept the minutes from the November meeting as submitted. Ron Cromartie seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Meeting Logistics

Chuck shared that new participants are always welcome to SAC meetings. **Please remember to email your RSVP** so we get a headcount for meeting materials and lunch. Meeting times and locations are posted on the StartWithYourHeart.com website. Since most of us usually wear name badges, we will no longer be generating name tags. If you would like us to make a name badge for you, please let us know.

The Stroke Advisory Council has a new way of doing business with our NC Stroke System of Care plan which is a living document that resides on our website StartWithYourHeart.com. One major issue that arose while developing the SSC was around coordination with EMS in the stroke system of care. Today's meeting is devoted to this topic, and we will begin to look at work being done around the state to improve communication and coordination of care. The information in today's meeting will inform the Prehospital Assessment work group.

Legislative Update

Peg provided a legislative update on items from the Action Agenda (see slides). Items that did not advance remain on the Agenda, and one new item was added after a vote at the January Task Force meeting: Endorse Pediatric Stroke education initiative.

Stroke Advisory Council Updates

Anna Bess provided updates on the hospital survey; the stroke prevention campaign, Small Steps Bright Future; and the Stroke Registry.

- Hospital Survey: In order to engage more hospitals in completing the survey, the Division of Public Health will administer the survey. A work group representing hospitals and systems around the state convened to revise the survey and added questions about barriers. Hospital staff attending today's meeting were asked to see Brittany Richo, evaluator for the CCCPH branch, to update hospital contact information.
- The Small Steps Bright Future ads are running again this year. This time the videos are running online and on certain streaming services statewide.
- Stroke Registry: the HIE Stroke Registry work group will meet with NC HealthConnex this month to develop a stroke registry in the HIE.

State Stroke Protocol and Triage Destination Plan

Wally Ainsworth, manager of the central DHR Office of Emergency Medical Services, provided handouts of the Stroke Protocols and Triage Destination Plan that are posted on the NCEMS.org website. The protocols: 1) [Suspected Stroke](#) 2) [Suspected Stroke: Activase/t-PA](#) 3) [Stroke EMS Triage and Destination Plan](#) can be used across the state, modified by local EMS, and approved by NC OEMS. Chuck asked Dr. Ed Jauch to serve on the Prehospital Assessment work group when questions on medication arose. Revised information on time window, thrombolytic checklist and alteplase provide opportunities for discussion. Please address questions about the state protocol to Wally Ainsworth at wally.ainsworth@dhhs.nc.gov

Implementation Strategies for EMS within a Stroke System of Care

Joanna Keeter, Stroke Coordinator at Vidant Edgecombe, and Chuck Strickland, EastCare Vidant Outreach Coordinator, presented the work they have done to strengthen communication and coordination of their stroke system in eastern NC. Joanna noted that hospitals provide patient outcomes in 1-2 days to EMS. See their slide presentation.

UNC VAN Score Study

Mehul Patel, UNC Department of Emergency Medicine and Jackie Thompson, Stroke Program Coordinator, UNC Rex, presented an overview on their study using VAN scores to predict LVO. The study outcomes will be presented at the [AHA Southeast Heart and Stroke Quality Summit](#) April 20-24. Mehul noted that the Summit will host a panel on stroke scales.

Duke IMPROVE Stroke Care Project

Dr. Shree Shah, Assistant Professor and neurologist with Duke Health, presented a review of the IMPROVE Stroke Care program, an implementation science program with a goal of improving regional stroke care within 9 hub-and-spoke systems across four states by using systemic efficiencies and cooperation to implement best practices for more rapid reperfusion therapy. Anticipated improvements in acute stroke care delivery may result in lower mortality, fewer recurrent strokes and improved long-term functional outcomes. See presentation slides.

Announcements

Michael Erwin, stroke survivor and founder of BELIEVE Stroke Recovery Foundation, announced that the official launch of BELIEVE will be April 23 at 5:30 in Holly Springs. See believesrf.org for more information. Michael encouraged everyone to promote May as National Stroke Awareness Month. Contact him through the website to purchase tee shirts in customizable colors to promote stroke awareness.

Abby Fairbank announced that AHA, in partnership with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, is providing mini-grant funding opportunities to promote heart health in the Triangle, Triad and Charlotte areas. To apply by March 30 visit heart.org.

Abby shared information on [AHA Southeast Heart and Stroke Quality Summit](#) April 20-24 in Raleigh. Click on the link for information on topics and to register.

Abby also shared AHA's [Mission: Lifeline Stroke EMS Acute Stroke Routing](#) protocol.

Additional recognition:

Chuck recognized Cathy Thomas, retiring Branch Head for Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health, for her tireless efforts in supporting the work of the Stroke Advisory Council. Cathy has housed and incorporated SAC executive directors and staff into the branch over the years and has identified funds and people power to get our work done. She supported the recent development of the Stroke System of Care and the redesign of the website. We wish Cathy all the best in retirement.

Closing

Chuck thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and sharing their work. He reminded everyone to share their resources, protocols and tools in the Stroke System of Care Plan.

2020 SAC Meetings:

- **May 4 from 11-1** (Lunch from 1-2) at Division of Public Health, 5605 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh
- **August 28 from 1-3 PM** (Tour at 11 AM; Lunch at 12) at Andrews Center, WakeMed, 3024 New Bern Ave., Raleigh
- **November 12 from 12:30-2:30** (Tour at 11AM; Lunch from 11:30-12:30) at Atrium Health in Charlotte