

STROKE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 2022

1 - 2:30 pm

Members/Partners

Present: Joseph Allen, Medtronic; Rocio Anderson, Community Health Worker Association; Sue Ashcraft, Novant Health; Pat Aysse, American Heart Association (AHA); Dawn Becker, UNC Health Lenoir; Sharon Biby, Cone Health; Heather Bradley, DPH Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health Branch (CCCPH); Haley Brennan, Novant Health; Anna Bess Brown, Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force (JWTF); Katie Buck, Carolina East Health; Adrienne Calhoun, JWTF board member, NC Association of Area Agencies on Aging; Evan Carroll, Yancey County EMS; Sylvia Coleman, RN; Michael Clay, ECU Health; Ron Cromartie, Innovative Healthcare Consulting; Tom Curley, Novant New Hanover Regional Medical Center (NHRMC); Rizza de la Guerra, J&J; Meghan Dornan, Cape Fear Valley Health; Chelsea Dunston, Atrium Health; Mathew Ehrlich, Duke; Michael Erwin, BELIEVE Stroke Recovery Foundation; Abby Fairbank, AHA; Diane Galati, Iredell Health System; Nick Galvez, DHHS Office on Rural Health; Michelle Geroleman, WakeMed; Brittini Griffin Lifepoint Health; Katie Hall, ECU Health; Lorrie Hampton, Atrium Health Cabarrus; Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, JWTF member, UNC; Michele Horvath, ECU Health; Sarah Jacobson, AHA; Edward Jauch, MAHEC; Robin Jones, United Stroke Alliance; Erin Lewis UNC Health; Clarissa Lowery, Novant Health; Tiffany Macri, Stroke Survivor; Adam Marley, Northern Regional Hospital; Jessica Martin, Mission HCA; Kim McDonald, DPH Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section; Catherine Michael, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist (AWFB); Debbie Moser, Northern Regional Hospital; Terri Moore, DPH CCCPH, Coverdell Stroke Program; Kathy Nadasdeski, WakeMed; Kaili Nixon, ECU Health; Amanda Orfitelli, DPH CCCPH, Coverdell Stroke Program; Gaurang Palikh, Neurologist; Diane Perkins, Atrium Health; William Pertet, DPH CCCPH; Renee Potter, UNC Health; Julia Retelski, Atrium Health; Linda Smith, The Outer Banks Hospital; Lauren Stevenson, NHRMC; Bridgette Story, ECU Health Beaufort; Julie Teachey, ECU Health; Andrea Ward, AWFB; Julie Webb, Duke; Marie Welch, RN; Erika Yourkiewicz, NHRMC.

Welcome

Peg O'Connell, SAC Chair

Stroke Advisory Council chair Peg O'Connell welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. She introduced the new Chief of the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section, Dr. Kim McDonald. Dr. McDonald welcomed all and said she looked forward to working with everyone.

Peg called for the approval of the minutes from the last SAC meeting September 9, 2022. She reminded members that they had received an email with the minutes in advance of the meeting. The minutes were approved by acclamation with no corrections noted.

Peg welcomed Sharon Biby from Cone Health as a new member of the SAC board. She is a long-time SAC partner and is taking the seat vacated by Eric Deshaies (formerly of Novant) who was appointed by the NC Healthcare Association (formerly the NC Hospital Association). The Task Force will formally vote on Sharon's appointment to SAC at the Dec. meeting.

Coverdell Stroke Program Update

Terri Moore, Program Coordinator for the Coverdell Stroke Program

Terri explained that Year 2 projects began on August 1, 2022. The four projects are being implemented in 29 of NC's 100 counties; 58% of those counties are considered rural (by the Federal Office of Management and Budget). See the Coverdell Stroke Program County Reach Map in the posted slides. All projects will implement a protocol for monitoring healthcare disparities for individuals at risk for stroke. Terri introduced representatives from the four funded Coverdell Stroke Program projects who gave brief descriptions of their initiatives:

ECU Health

- SAM (Stroke Awareness Matters) Initiative
 - Provide stroke recognition and risk factor modification education to populations experiencing healthcare disparities by providing stroke education for students in grades 3, 4, & 5
 - Curriculum includes “Grandpa’s Crooked Smile” book, mascot, and video
 - Follow-Up Testing at 90 days, 6 months, and 1 year to gauge retention of education

Mission Hospital

- Quality Improvement
 - Evaluate Blood Pressure Methods in Non-Traumatic Intracerebral Hemorrhage
 - Aim 1 - Understand the agreement between SBP, DBP, and MAP measured by manual sphygmomanometry performed by trained healthcare providers and NIBP and, if applicable, A-line measurements in patients with acute non-traumatic ICH.
 - Aim 2 - Investigate the relationship between SBP, DBP, and MAP measurements by various methods and clinical outcomes in patients with acute non-traumatic ICH.

Mission Hospital and Cone Health

- Establish/enhance community/regional stroke system of care
 - Build partnership with Moses Cone Hospital (2nd site in acute ICH BP study), expanding study and adding diversity
 - Will provide rich body of data to understand discrepancy in BP management in different regions and demographics
- Increase number of partnerships in community
 - Engage Yancey County Community Paramedic for Stroke follow up; perform in home assessments at 30 and 90 days
 - Connect patients and families with resources such as medication delivery, rehab, support groups, etc.
 - Increase number of individuals linked to community resources; increase community partnerships and awareness of resources
 - ID and analyze health inequalities

Northern Regional Hospital

- Monitor and Address Health Disparities
 - Identify patients with stroke risk factors and monitor healthcare disparities for those at highest risk for stroke events.
 - Provide resources to address any barriers and support patient centered goals and education.
 - Interventions:
 - Partner with ACO to identify patients with risk factors and SDoH Disparities
 - Utilize traditional Medicare contract population as control group
 - Compare with Medicare Advantage and commercial insurance populations to assess stroke risks and incidence of stroke
 - Utilize ACO Social Worker, Pharmacy team and Family Medicine practice embedded Care Manager to provide resources; address barriers and provide education
 - Support Inpatient Stroke Education as well as the Northern Regional Hospital Post-Acute Stroke Bridge Clinic
- Partner and Educate EMS

- Collaborate with Surry County EMS to identify any performance gaps related to stroke care within the hospital setting
- Provide education to fill any performance gaps and improve transition of care
- Interventions:
 - Collect data from EMS to identify all patients brought in by ambulance as a Stroke Alert to Northern Regional Hospital and provide feedback to EMS for patients that did not result in Code Stroke
 - Collect data on patients that arrived via EMS but no Stroke Alert was called and provide follow up to Surry County EMS
 - Share data with Surry County EMS and provide any necessary education to reinforce identification of stroke related symptoms and provide support to emergency providers

Novant Health

- Monitor and Address Health Disparities
 - Utilize EHR to build a report that will look at SDoH contributing to outcomes of stroke patients
 - Four rural coastal congregations to be surveyed regarding knowledge of stroke symptoms, risk factors, and general knowledge. Follow-up to be provided including education as necessary.
 - Focus groups in these same rural coastal communities to determine resource and educational needs
- ASLS Training of EMS Partners
 - 800 EMS staff to be trained, 320 trained so far across the three markets
 - Protocols improved to date: Bald Head Island EMS now calling Stroke Alert in the field, VA collaboration made.
 - Distribute BEFAST magnets at community events: 3,500 distributed to date

Resource Panel: Care Coordination and Post-Stroke Care Part II

Peg welcomed **Sylvia Coleman**, who serves on the SAC Meeting Planning Work Group, to facilitate the panel and introduce the panelists:

Rocio Anderson, Community Health Worker Association

Lorrie Hampton, Atrium Health Cabarrus Stroke Support Group Coordinator

Tiffany Macri, Stroke Survivor

Dawn Becker, UNC Health Lenoir Stroke Coordinator

See slides for Panelists' presentations.

Questions

1. **Q** for Tiffany: what are the most important and most helpful resources to you as a stroke survivor?
A: Tiffany Macri responded that the Atrium Cabarrus Stroke Support group was the best thing to happen to her since her stroke. The group helped her accept that she'd had a stroke; for a long time she was in denial. The coordinators and fellow stroke survivors are there to help. **Tiffany** added, "To see how far people have come gives you nothing but hope." The support group also supports caregivers and families.
2. **Q:** What age were you when you had your stroke?
A: Tiffany responded that she was 46 when she had her stroke.
3. **Robin Jones** (robinncrn@gmail.com) says she is able to come to any stroke support group to share information from the United Stroke Alliance and the Retreat and Refresh Stroke Camps.
Q: What are ways we can be more intentional about addressing inequities and structural racism?
A: Rocio Anderson responded that acknowledging our own biases is the first step. Working with partners and groups that have the same approach in addressing inequity and racism can be helpful. Find out what resources are available in your community and in the state.

Sylvia added that we should continue the conversation around that question and added that one of the goals of Coverdell work is to address inequity and decrease barriers.

Sylvia asked participants to send any further questions to Anna Bess and said we'll share the answers.

Peg thanked Sylvia and all the panelists for their helpful and inspiring information, and she thanked all for participating in the meeting. She thanked Tiffany especially for sharing her experience as a stroke victor. She encouraged all to complete the survey following the meeting as we will use the feedback in evaluating these meetings.

Peg announced the next meeting will showcase the HIE Stroke Registry and will be February 15, 2023 at SAS Institute in Cary. It will be offered virtually also for those who can't attend in person.

Peg explained that the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force will meet virtually Dec. 1st at 11:00 AM to hear proposals for the Action Agenda, and she welcomed all to join that meeting.

2023 Stroke Advisory Council Meetings
All meetings from 1-2:30 PM

- **Feb. 15 at SAS Institute in Cary**
- **May 11 - virtual**
- **August 8 in the Eagle Room, DPH - hybrid**
- **November 8 – virtual**