

Stroke Committee – The chair is Dr. Sean Savitz and the group met virtually on 9.30.2020 with roughly 50 attendees. UTMB Clear Lake’s stroke coordinator notified the committee that they have endovascular capabilities 24/7 and can now treat large vessel occlusions for acute stroke patients. Dr. Hashem Shaltoni, Medical Director, along with the stroke care team at UTMB Clear Lake had a successful Primary Stroke survey and are currently In Active Pursuit of comprehensive designation.

CEO reports will be sent to individual hospital leaders to include annual data from 2019 thru quarter 2 2020. The data is currently being vetted by individual hospital data abstractors to ensure all leaders receive accurate data.

Finalized upgrades to the SETRAC Clinical database were also highlighted. The upgrades include a “documents” section for authorization forms and data dictionaries. Data abstractors are now able to check a box to indicate “no patients to report” to aide in identifying months were data was not entered.

Quarter 2 2020 stroke data was reviewed. The committee also reviewed data highlighting the impact that COVID-19 has had on stroke volumes. The data reflects a significant decrease in the month of April in regard to total stroke volumes, patient arrival by personal transportation, EMS volumes and EMS stroke alerts. Patients expired on scene spiked in April while patient resuscitation continues to rise (see pages 9-14).

The Stroke Data subcommittee met virtually on 09.30.2020. The subcommittee discussed the finalization of the Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC) LVO data collection project. This project was established by the Joint Conference Committee to track the efficacy of the pre-hospital stroke algorithm. Final tests are being run to ensure data is captured accurately by all CSCs. Data collection to begin with quarter 1 thru quarter 2 2020. Virtual education courses hosted by SETRAC supporting this effort was piloted by Harris County Emergency Corps. Cypress Creek EMS will be asked to complete the courses as we will disperse education by agency due to limited open enrollment availability.

The Stroke Coordinators subcommittee met on 08.24.2020. Discussion surrounding tracking secondary stroke diagnosis ensued as COVID-19 is currently being entered as the primary diagnosis. Data abstractors will now enter secondary diagnosis of stroke when applicable.

SETRAC will now host monthly stakeholder led education sessions alternating between the stroke data subcommittee meetings and the stroke coordinators subcommittee meetings. With a continuous goal of improving stroke care in our region, each facility will collaboratively share a quality improvement project or best practice guideline that has proven effective at their facility. A calendar has been created to ensure facilities are aware of their designated month to present.