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## SETRAC Stroke Coordinators Subcommittee

Wednesday, September 24, 2025  
SETRAC Conference Center, 1111 N. Loop West, Suite 160, Houston, TX 77008  
In-Person / Virtual Meeting

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| TOPIC                                                                                                                                       | DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | ACTION/FOLLOW-UP                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Presenter: Tonia Shelton/Lacey Hess</b><br><b>Topic: Call to Order/Approval of Minutes</b>                                               | Tonia Shelton called the meeting to order. Minutes from July 23, 2025, were approved with no changes. 1 <sup>st</sup> code word was given. Attendance will now be tracked by going to <a href="http://www.setrac.org/stroke">www.setrac.org/stroke</a> . This is where you will enter your code words at the beginning and end of the meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | The committee has no further recommendations.<br><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Code word - Memorial |
| <b>Presenter: Alex Humphreys</b><br><b>Topic: New Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Vivistim Lunch Sponsorship</li></ul> | Tonia made an announcement that lunch is sponsored by Alex Humphreys from Vivistim. SETRAC thanked her for her sponsorship. Alex is the local representative for Vivistim in the greater Houston area, who discussed their services and collaboration with local facilities. She presented information about Vivistem, an FDA-approved vagal nerve stimulator for chronic ischemic stroke survivors with moderate to severe upper extremity impairment. The device, which requires intensive rehab therapy, has shown significant and sustained improvement in upper extremity function, with a two-incision implant procedure that is safe and well-tolerated. Alex explained that the device works by activating the learning center of the brain through neuromodulators, allowing patients to make new neural connections and improve function after plateauing in the chronic phase of stroke recovery. Alex showed slides and presented on the candidacy and care pathway for a medical device therapy for chronic stroke survivors, emphasizing FDA labeling requirements, patient selection criteria, and the multidisciplinary approach needed for successful treatment. She highlighted that while the therapy is FDA-approved, insurance coverage can be challenging, though Medicare provides a pass-through payment without prior authorization. The discussion included details about available treatment sites in the Houston area and the importance of identifying eligible patients through various healthcare touchpoints. There were questions and open discussion about this presentation. | The committee has no further recommendations.                                             |
| <b>Presenter: Memorial Hermann Cypress</b><br><b>Topic: Stroke Best Practice Presentation</b>                                               | Angelica Antaran from Memorial Hermann Cypress shared her best practice presentation. She presented on improving blood pressure order compliance through standardized inpatient stroke order sets, which ensure adherence to clinical practice guidelines and reduce variability in practice. The                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | The committee has no further recommendations.                                             |



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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | implementation included education for physicians, integration into electronic health records, and feedback on compliance and outcomes, resulting in increased utilization rates from 0% to over 90% since June 2023. The initiative has led to fewer errors, improved patient outcomes, and a stronger foundation for primary stroke center certification.                                                                    |                                               |
| <b>Presenter: HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast</b><br><b>Topic: Stroke Best Practice Presentation</b>                                                                                          | Ashley Richards from HCA Houston Healthcare Southwest presented their door-to-needle process for stroke patients, highlighting their success in improving times to under 45 minutes and achieving a Gold Plus Award. The team discussed their implementation of a launch pad system and T&K protocol, with CT turnaround times currently averaging 15-20 minutes.                                                             |                                               |
| <b>Presenter: Tonia Shelton</b><br><b>Topic: Stroke Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Best Practice Calendar</li></ul>                                                       | Tonia showed the members the 2025 Stroke Education Calendar. She informed the members they can volunteer now or make changes to their scheduled month to present. She also showed the 2026 calendar dates informed the members all date is open to volunteer to present in 2026.                                                                                                                                              | The committee has no further recommendations  |
| <b>Presenter: Tracy Prenat &amp; Melanie Aluotto</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Rehab Utilization Workgroup Update</b></li><li><b>Extended Window Workgroup Update</b></li></ul> | Tracy Prenat gave a brief update on what was discussed at the Rehab Utilization Workgroup meeting. Tracy reported on a new pilot program examining rehab referrals for stroke patients with MRS scores of 2-4, while Melanie shared updates on extended window initiatives focusing on high-incidence zip codes, including plans for Heart of the Matter education programs and a potential 4-minute city pilot in Fort Bend. | The committee has no further recommendations  |
| <b>Open Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | There was no other open discussion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | The committee has no further recommendations. |
| <b>Adjournment / Next Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                              | There being no other items for discussion, the meeting adjourned. The next in-person meeting will be on November 19, 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Code Word - fajitas           |