



SETRAC Stroke Committee

Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Houston Methodist Willowbrook
In-person/Virtual Meeting

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TOPIC	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Presenter: Tonia Shelton Topic: Call to Order/Approval of Minutes	Tonia Shelton called the meeting to order. Minutes from November 19, 2025, were approved with no changes. Attendance will be tracked by going to www.setrac.org/stroke . Enter your code words at the beginning and end of the meeting.	The committee has no further recommendations.
New Business: Rapid AI Presentation Presenter: Amy Malish & Laura Yeradi Topic:	Tonia started with thanking Rapid AI for sponsoring lunch for today's meeting. Laura and Amy introduced themselves and shared their background experience. Amy and Laura from Rapid AI presented their AI solutions for stroke care, highlighting their deep clinical AI capabilities and integration with Pulsara. They discussed their end-to-end offering for ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, including modules for large vessel occlusion detection, automated ASPECT scoring, and hemorrhage volume measurement. The presentation emphasized Rapid AI's commitment to clinical validation and their expanding portfolio across various medical specialties.	The committee has no further recommendations.
Presenter: Dr. Haris Kamal Topic: Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Kamal introduced two new physicians to the group, Dr. Maria Parekh and Dr. Jazba Soomro, both vascular neurologists who will contribute to educational efforts.	The committee has no further recommendations.
Presenter: Dr. Haris Kamal Topic: Stroke Triage Algorithm Vote	Dr. Kamal reviewed and discussed the Stroke Triage Algorithm. The committee members voted and approved the updated stroke triage algorithms for urban and rural areas, which align with recent American Heart Association guidelines for treating large vessel occlusions. The group also discussed the need to standardize stroke severity assessment tools across emergency medical services. Jason Gondur offered to take this information to the EMS committee for further development.	The committee has no further recommendations.



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Topic: CT Perfusion for Extended Stroke Treatment	Dr. Kamal presented recent changes to stroke treatment guidelines, highlighting that the AHA now recommends CT perfusion as a modality for TPA treatment beyond 4.5 hours. He explained that while MRI-based trials showed no increased risk of hemorrhage since 2018, CT perfusion imaging is more widely available in primary stroke centers. The discussion included historical context of thrombolytic therapy since 1958 and recent trials showing a 10-12% benefit with 2-6% hemorrhage rates for patients treated outside the traditional 4.5-hour window. Dr. Kamal concluded that the field is evolving toward tissue-based rather than time-based treatment decisions, with ongoing trials like WUST exploring CT-based treatment for wake-up strokes.	
Presenter: Memorial Hermann TMC- Isabel Gonzales Topic: Improving Dysphagia Screening Compliance	Isabel Gonzales, a Stroke NP at Memorial Hermann, presented on improving dysphagia screen compliance, highlighting the need for consistent screening to prevent aspiration pneumonia and malnutrition. She discussed the implementation of a standardized dysphagia screening process using Epic's electronic health record system, which included creating order sets, clarifying responsibilities, and embedding screens into admission protocols. The project, which went live in August 2024, achieved a compliance rate of 79-80% by the end of 2025, exceeding the goal of 80%. The initiative included educating providers and staff, integrating best practice alerts, and monitoring data to ensure proper screening and medication administration.	The committee has no further recommendations.
Presenter: Melanie Aluotto Topic: SETRAC QI Program	Melanie reminded the members of the SETRAC QI program. The purpose is to give a platform to submit case reviews, trends, or any concerns / issues in the region and the QI medical directors would look at those issues to find resolution. She shared the link for all that might be interested.	The committee has no further recommendations.



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Presenter: Grace Farquhar Topic: Stroke Data	Grace focused on reviewing stroke data from 2020 to Q3 2025, highlighting trends in stroke volumes and thrombolytic administration. She emphasized the importance of aligning local goals with regional targets, particularly for door-to-needle times, and discussed the need to improve documentation of reasons for delays or non-administration of thrombolytics. The group also reviewed educational calendar plans for 2026 and discussed potential improvements to data collection, including tracking reasons for administering TPA outside the 4.5-hour window. SETRAC agreed to explore options for obtaining this information and to follow up with Get With the Guidelines on potential updates to their data collection process.	The committee has no further recommendations.
Presenter: Tonia Shelton Topic: 2026 Committee Goals Topic: Stroke Coordinators Subcommittee	Tonia discussed setting goals for Stroke Committee Goals and improving stroke care in the region. The group agreed to carry over three existing goals from the stroke coordinator group, including reducing the percentage of patients presenting outside the thrombolytic window and providing minimum C&E education. They also discussed adding a new goal to collaborate with EMS on improving stroke documentation, as many EMS agencies either don't document or don't use stroke scales consistently. The group decided to analyze current documentation practices and develop education strategies to improve compliance.	The committee has no further recommendations
Presenter: Tonia Shelton Topic: Stroke Education Workgroup	Tonia shared the 2026 best practice calendar. If anyone can't present or would like a new date to present, please contact Merjani.garcia@setrac.org	The committee has no further recommendations
Presenter: Members Topic: Open Discussion	There was no other open discussion.	The committee has no further recommendations



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TOPIC	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Next Meeting / Adjournment	There being no other items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be held Wednesday March 25, 2026, at 1:00pm – 2:30pm	Code Words Green/Blue

Jan 30, 2026	NAYlon Bird	Ben Taub General	
Jan 29, 2026	Monika Sukaviriya	Memorial Hermann Greater Heights	
			Huntsville-Walker County
Jan 28, 2026	Rachel Parker		EMS
Jan 28, 2026	Courtney Oberndorfer	Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center	
Jan 28, 2026	Angelica Antaran	Memorial Hermann Cypress	
		Houston Methodist Willowbrook	
		Hospital	
Jan 28, 2026	Taylor Grow	Memorial Hermann Sugar Land	
Jan 28, 2026	Saundra Small	UTMB Clear Lake	
Jan 28, 2026	Ilesha Johnosn	UTMB Clear Lake	
Jan 28, 2026	Ilesha Johnosn	Memorial Hermann Northeast	
Jan 28, 2026	Joyce Cabriana	Ben Taub General	
Jan 28, 2026	Lenora Watson	Memorial Hermann-The Woodlands	
Jan 28, 2026	Erika Sirchia	Memorial Hermann Katy	
Jan 28, 2026	Kathleen Cablitas	Memorial Hermann Katy	
Jan 28, 2026	Kathleen Cablitas	Houston Methodist Hospital (TMC)	
Jan 28, 2026	Madonna Pardilla	Houston Methodist Hospital (TMC)	
Jan 28, 2026	Madonna Pardilla	HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress	
Jan 28, 2026	Anita Anhwere	Memorial Hermann-The Woodlands	
Jan 28, 2026	LeTrida rhyans	Memorial Hermann Memorial City	
Jan 28, 2026	Leila Semaan		



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Jan 28, 2026	Regina Bonton	HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress
Jan 28, 2026	Ashley Richards	HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast
Jan 28, 2026	Madonna Pardilla	Houston Methodist Hospital (TMC)
Jan 28, 2026	Madonna Pardilla	Houston Methodist Hospital (TMC)
Jan 28, 2026	Tracy Nutt	St. Joseph Medical Center
		OakBend Medical Center at Williams
		Way
Jan 28, 2026	BJ Patel	Houston Methodist Clear Lake Hospital
Jan 28, 2026	Jason Lee	Memorial Hermann Southeast
Jan 28, 2026	Traci Prenat	Memorial Hermann TMC
Jan 28, 2026	Isabel Gonzales	HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest
Jan 28, 2026	Edwina Horton	HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest
Jan 28, 2026	Claudia Rocha	OakBend Medical Center
Jan 28, 2026	LaToya Bates	HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood
Jan 28, 2026	Laura Halberdier	HCA Houston Healthcare Conroe
Jan 28, 2026	Karissa Stasik	Memorial Hermann Memorial City
Jan 28, 2026	Tressa Sumners	Huntsville Memorial
Jan 28, 2026	Tiffany DeLaurentis	Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital
Jan 28, 2026	Merrilee Littlewood	St. Luke's The Woodlands
Jan 28, 2026	Theresa Eschete	Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital
Jan 28, 2026	Jennifer Estrada	Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center
Jan 28, 2026	Vi Nguyen	St. Luke's at The Vintage
Jan 28, 2026	Jeremy Jones	Memorial Hermann Cypress
Jan 28, 2026	Angelica Antaran	HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest
Jan 28, 2026	Edwina Horton	HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest
Jan 28, 2026	Claudia Rocha	HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress
Jan 28, 2026	Anita Anhwere	Houston Methodist Hospital (TMC)
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Kathleen Cablitas

Memorial Hermann Katy

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Memorial Hermann Katy