Stroke Network NSW

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Stroke Network Restructure

The Stroke Network is committed to improving the provision of Stroke care in NSW. As you are aware, we have been reviewing the current ways the Network has been operating. We have taken into account the feedback you have given us both formally in the network survey and informally through conversations, meeting discussions and correspondence.

Based on your feedback and system needs we have designed a structure that allows for clear governance as well as a way for the Network to prioritise projects whilst retaining and strengthening areas you identified as being of value in the current structure, this includes:

- Networking opportunities, especially face to face opportunities for rural clinicians
- Education events
- Benchmarking and access to data

Our proposal for a new Stroke Network Structure aims to allow for a clear process for identifying new network activities, develop network work plans, prioritise activities and monitor their progress. We also hope this will allow us to provide opportunities and accountability through a reporting structure that will reduce duplication and repetition and will allow a system for project escalation and prioritisation.

I have attached the new Stroke Strategy Map.

The Network will continue to have co-chairs who will lead a multidisciplinary network executive. We will be moving to a three co-chair model with representation from Medical, Nursing and Allied Health.

There will be, time limited, outcome focused working groups (some existing as well as some new ones) and each will provide a chair who will join the Executive. Working group membership and minutes will be made available on the ACI website.

We will aim to have two large Network Forums per year focusing on:

- Data, benchmarking and planning
- Sharing Quality Improvements projects and research
- Communities of practice may be set up as required to support different clinical groups
New Co-Chair

Richard Lindley is Professor of Geriatric Medicine, University of Sydney and Honorary Professorial Fellow at the George Institute for Global Health. Richard qualified from Newcastle upon Tyne Medical School in 1986 and trained in General, Geriatric and Stroke Medicine in England, Scotland and Australia.

In 1990, Richard was appointed as the Research Fellow for the International Stroke Trial, with the Edinburgh Stroke Group and has continued to enjoy collaborative clinical research over the following decades, including roles in about 40 RCTs.

Richard has been past President of the Stroke Society of Australasia, Board member of the Stroke Foundation (including chairing the Clinical Council, and co-chairing the Australian Stroke Coalition), and co-chairing the national guidelines in Scotland and Australia. He is an Associate Editor for the Australasian Journal of Ageing. He runs a large portfolio of clinical research in Stroke, Rehabilitation, Vascular Disease, Global Health and Prescribing.

Richard provides 2 days a week clinical service in acute geriatric medicine, acute stroke and rehabilitation at Blacktown Hospital, Sydney.

Education Opportunities

"STROKE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FORUM"
Thurs 5th April 2018
Kirribilli Club, 11 Harbourview Crescent, Lavender Bay

This free forum will provide an opportunity for services involved in the provision of stroke care from across the patient journey to present their improvement initiatives and learn how other sites are addressing different challenges.

The day will include feedback from sites involved in the SQIP on their quality improvement projects; and is aimed at doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and managers that work in NSW health services in the provision of stroke care.

For more information, please contact Carmel Thron (ACI Project Officer) Carmel.Thorn@health.nsw.gov.au or (02) 9464 4610

"SAFER USE OF MEDICINE FOR COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT" WEBINAR
Tues 20th February 2018 2:30-3:30pm
Webinar

This will be of interest to clinicians who would like to learn more about medication safety for people with cognitive impairment in hospital.

The webinar will cover key elements such as medication reconciliation and review, appropriate prescribing, consumer involvement and education, and medicines at transitions. Starting with a consumer story, our three speakers will illustrate the importance of a team approach, providing a pharmacy, medicine and nursing perspective.

To register, please fill out the form in the following link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6432069743455694337

"BIG SOLUTIONS FOR A BIG COUNTRY"
Wed 7th March 2018 11:00am-12:00pm
SMSA Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts - Mitchell Theatre, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Please see the invitation from the Stroke Foundation about their 2018 Public Lecture Series. Professor Bladin is one of Australia’s leading neurology specialist with particular interests in thrombolysis, acute stroke brain imaging, and stroke telemedicine.

Places are limited so please reserve your seat through registering through the following link https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/public-lecture-series-2018-big-solutions-for-a-big-country-tickets-42702718982 by Thursday 1st March 2018.

Please direct any enquiries to either philanthropy@strokefoundation.org.au or call (03) 9918 725

"EVERYDAY COGNITION IMPLICATION FOR ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION"
20th Feb 6:00-7:00pm
3/41 Herbert St, Artarmon NSW 2064, Australia

Please see an invitation to attend our next free evening lecture at Advance Rehab Centre. Our guest speaker Dr
Judy Ranka, will be presenting on 'Everyday Cognition Implications for Assessment and Intervention'.

Places are limited so please reserve your seat by emailing offices@archealth.com.au or calling 9906 777. Refreshments will be provided and networking from 5.30pm. We look forward to seeing you!

'EVIDENCE-BASED UPPER LIMB RETRAINING' WORKSHOP
Thurs 1st March - Saturday 3rd March 8:00am - 4:00/5:00pm
340 Prairie Vale Rd, Prairiewood NSW 2176

This workshops are aimed at occupational therapists and physiotherapists who work with people who have had a stroke. Therapy assistants can attend the workshop.

Therapists working with people affected by traumatic brain injury and other neurological conditions will find the workshop relevant. However, most of the examples provided and stroke participants attending are likely to have had a stroke.

For more information, please visit http://strokeed.com/about-workshops/evidence-based-upper-limb-retraining/

Funding Opportunities

ELSPETH PERASON AWARD (OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS)
The Elspeth Pearson Award enables award recipients to advance their clinical skills and expertise through access to professional development opportunities.

Applications are now open for the 2018 Elspeth Pearson Award. This fund enables recently qualified occupational therapists (qualified for up to 3 years), and this year for the first time, final year occupational therapy students, to broaden their education and experience within the profession up to the value of $15,000.

For further information, including how previous recipients have used the funding, please visit https://www.otaus.com.au/about-us/awards/elspeth-pearson

Articles

2018 Guidelines for the Early Management of Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke: A Guideline for Healthcare Professionals From the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

"The purpose of these guidelines is to provide an up-to-date comprehensive set of recommendations for clinicians caring for adult patients with acute arterial ischemic stroke in a single document. The intended audiences are prehospital care providers, physicians, allied health professionals, and hospital administrators. These guidelines supersede the 2013 guidelines and subsequent updates."
http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/early/2018/01/23/STR.0000000000000158

Botulinum toxin for spasticity: a case for change to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

"Current permissible use of botulinum toxin in Australia does not match newer understandings of human impairment and functioning"

Twitter Journal Club

The Association Of Chartered Physiotherapists in Neurology in the UK is conducting their first journal club via Twitter - the topic is 'Physical Activity after Stroke' 13/02/2018 at 7am. https://twitter.com/ACPIN_UK

For those of you not familiar with Twitter or this form of journal club, information can be found at https://physiotalk.co.uk/about/how-to-take-part-in-a-tweet-chat/
Online Available Resources

Please see below online educational resources that are available.

July 2017

'Atrial Fibrillation Screening'
by Dr Nicole Lowres, Heart Research Institute, Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney
https://vimeo.com/225493742

July 2017

'Integrated Nurse-led Atrial Fibrillation Clinics'
by Dr. Jeroen Hendrik, Centre for Heart Rhythm Disorders, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), University of Adelaide and the Royal Adelaide Hospital
https://vimeo.com/226380454

July 2017

Educational interventions to increase clinician and patient knowledge of atrial fibrillation and anticoagulation: a review
by Dr Caleb Ferguson, University of Technology Sydney
https://vimeo.com/227206161

August 2017

'How evidence-based stroke care can improve patient outcomes'
by A/Professor Dominique Cadilhac, The Florey Institute, Monash
https://vimeo.com/254593457

For more information or to join the Network contact:
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