

1. Improving stroke care

Vital first 72 hours - Hyper acute phase

WITHIN 2 HOURS

Assessed by
ambulance staff

Transferred to A&E

Expert clinical
assessment

Brain scan

Thrombolysis offered
to appropriate patients

WITHIN 4 HOURS

Admitted to specialist
stroke unit

Specialist swallow
screening

WITHIN 24 HOURS

Assessed and
managed by stroke
consultant, nursing
staff and specialist
rehabilitation team

WITHIN 72 HOURS

Assessed by all
members of the
multi-disciplinary team
e.g. Speech and
Language,
Physiotherapy and
Occupational Therapy

Specialist swallow
assessment

90% of a patient's stay to be on a specialist stroke unit

What's important to you

- You **don't want staff shortages**
- You **do want high quality staff**
- You want a **balance between travel times and access to specialist care**
- You want **quick diagnosis and treatment**
- You want **24/7 care**



Bill's story: now



Bill, 52, is a police officer who **smokes** and has **high blood pressure**. One evening, he suddenly has **difficulty speaking**, **starts drooling** and his **right hand is weak**. His wife dials 999.

HOME

- Paramedic assesses Bill; takes him to A&E
- Bill arrives at hospital 90 minutes after his wife called 999

HOSPITAL

- Bill's brain is scanned immediately

Within one hour

- A consultant assesses Bill. If appropriate, treats him with clot-busting drugs

Within four hours

- Bill is transferred to a stroke unit
- The unit treats 350-500 strokes a year and has 5 day a week consultant and therapy cover
- Bill's ability to swallow is screened

Within 72 hours

- Bill's ability to swallow is fully assessed



Bill's story: future



Bill has the **best chance of survival and recovery** because he is assessed quickly, diagnosed and treated by a **highly specialist team available 24/7**

HOME

- Paramedic assesses Bill at home using FAST tool; **pre-alerts the hospital** and takes him to A&E
- Bill arrives at hospital **between 60 and 90 minutes** after his wife called 999

HOSPITAL

- Bill's brain is scanned immediately

Within 30 minutes

- A consultant assess Bill and if appropriate, treats him with clot-busting drugs

Within four hours

- Bill is transferred to a stroke unit
- The unit treats **600-1,500 strokes**, provides **24/7 cover by stroke specialists and has 7 day specialist consultant and therapy input**
- Bill's ability to swallow is screened

Within 72 hours

- **Rehabilitation teams begin to work with Bill**



Progress and next steps

- Hyper acute stroke on 7 sites not sustainable
- Draft criteria to evaluate options developed
- Criteria based on public feedback
- Criteria address workforce shortage too
- More information available.

