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.