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**Stroke Education Plan**

Development Guide

The Stroke Care Network has the following recommendations considering the certification standards for stroke from the Joint Commission, Det Norske Veritas, and over 40 years of experiential learning from our network leaders with stroke program coordination history.

**General Concepts:**

* “Education Plan” program document:
	+ **What** is required of **Whom** and **How Often**
	+ Perform and document an annual review/update of your education plan document
		- List effective date and reviewed/revised date(s)
	+ Crosswalk your certifying agency’s standards for certification with your plan to assure program compliance
	+ Where possible, delegate staff compliance audits to departments’ leaders or staff development
	+ Incorporate hospital corrective action policy references to foster accountability
	+ Consider tracking tool that will depict a *percentage of compliance* with required education for emergency department providers
	+ Consider privileging requirements
* **What:**
	+ Include competency(ies), stroke education, and your organization’s protocols/processes
* **Who:**
	+ Mandatory inclusion is those caring for stroke patients:
		- Physicians and advanced providers
		- ED and stroke unit nursing staff
		- House officers
		- Pool staff and contract or travel staff
	+ Other disciplines:
		- Nursing staff in non-stroke designated units – i.e., In-Patient Stroke Alert
		- Non-clinical staff – i.e., General stroke awareness, including recognition and response
		- Ancillary staff – i.e., Discipline-specific stroke education, In-Patient Stroke Alert
* **How Often:**
	+ Basic program start-up when applicable
	+ Orientation for new hires
	+ Minimally, annual refreshers

**Recommended Standard Requirements:**

* Stroke education targeting specific learning needs for specific discipline and work location
* Orientation to stroke program order sets, protocols and policies
* Active National Institute of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) certification:
	+ Annual recertification is recommended for those without frequent opportunities to practice performance of this assessment
* Dysphagia Screening Competency:
	+ Annual recertification is recommended for those without frequent opportunities to practice performance of this assessment
	+ Include Return Demonstration in competency assessment for this skill
* Thrombolytic Administration Competency:
	+ Annual recertification is recommended for those without frequent opportunities to practice performance of this treatment

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