

Provincial Stroke Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Villa Boardroom @ Saint Paul's Hospital

Date & Time: April 16, 2008 1:00-5:00

Present: Mark Collison (Chair), Diane Layton, John Forsdick, Todd Collier, Rita den Otter, Martha Grypma, Devin Harris, Laurie Gould, Kennely Ho, Linda Lane-Devlin, Diego Marchese, Karen Wanger, Alana McCabe, Kathy Doull, Lynda McCloy, Andrew Penn, James Simpson, Bernice Budz, Rita Sweeny, Philip Teal, Valerie Tregillus (Co-Chair), Stephen Vallentyne, and Nicole Zorotheos

Absent: Diana Foster, Darcy Eyres, Mike Rocheleau, & Allan Holmes

Introductions, Agenda, and Housekeeping – Mark Collison (1:15-1:25)

- Introduction to Diane Layton, Principal of Chimera Consulting, and the new half-time Stroke Coordinator for the Stroke Steering Committee.
- Re-introduction to John Forsdick, Principal of Context Research, who has been working on the action plans with the four working groups.
- Suggestions for Presenters for the next Stroke Steering Committee Meeting were requested.

Priority Work Plans – John Forsdick (1:25-1:35)

- The working groups began their action plans at the end of January 2008 and each group held meetings with John Forsdick on:
 - Telehealth Working Group - March 4, 2008.
 - Measurement & Evaluation Working Group - February 29, 2008.
 - Rapid TIA Assessment Working Group – Health Authority Specific.
 - Rehabilitation & Reintegration Working Group – February 19, 2008
- Budget & Timelines were discussed:
 1. Action plans begun approximately at the end of January 2008.
 2. Action plan drafts are distributed to the Stroke Steering Committee on April 9, 2008.
 3. Presentation of each action plan on April 16, 2008 and review/input to be collected.
 4. Finalize action plans by April 30th at latest.

Agenda Topic 1: Rehabilitation & Reintegration –Presentation: Stephen Vallentyne (1:35-2:00)

Presentation content distributed within the meeting; main points of discussion:

- Predicted Project Cost: \$158,900
- A final report will be made after an expert panel of ~25 members addresses the plan.
- There will be three meetings with the expert panel: May 7th, June 22nd, & July 23rd of 2008
- Swallowing issues after stroke – Nurses should be trained by rehab professionals & speech/occupational therapists to gain a wider knowledge of this critical side effect.
- Strategy will address patient flow from the acute phases to outpatient and into community.
- Focus will be on big picture and in alignment of the right care in the right place at the right time.
- Analysis need not be too granular
- Bed Pressure – there is an urgency to get patients into rehab faster.
- A global budget figure for submission to the Ministry for the Rehabilitation Business Case needs to be available for September

Agenda Topic 2: Telehealth – Presentation: Philip Teal (2:55-3:45)

Presentation content distributed within the meeting; main points of discussion:

- Predicted Project Cost: \$500,000
- Project pilot sites must be located to facilitate the plan further. Criteria for site selection need to be developed.
- Central hub rotated between two centers (Vancouver & Victoria General) with 3-4 satellite hospitals initially.
- ER department education, institutional commitment, and local champions are key the success of the plan.
- Teleconsulting will also be implemented in addition to urgent cases and the use of tPA.
- Focus on Ontario's model where one third of telestroke calls receive tPA.
- Cranbrook's location must be considered because of it's proximity to Alberta
- Sustainability, spread and compensation issues will all have to be addressed by the pilot.
- Use of Telehealth for secondary prevention and rehabilitation is outside the scope of the pilot.
- Privacy and record keeping issues will have to be addressed.

Agenda Topic 3: Measurement & Evaluation – Presentation: Devin Harris (2:20-2:50)

Presentation content distributed within the meeting; main points of discussion:

- Predicted Project Cost: \$100,500
- The plan's main goal is to organize, measure, evaluate, and facilitate the other three plans in addition to being reliant on them for data.
- Definitions must be reconciled to standardize the process and prevent any confusion in data collection.
- PHSA plans change in the cardiac registry so there may be room for collaboration.
- Suggestion of Dr. S. Lear to assist in this process.

Break 2:50-3:05

Agenda Topic 4: TIA Rapid Assessment – Presentations: Todd Collier (Interior Health), Linda McCloy (Vancouver Coastal Health), Kennely Ho (Fraser Health), Rita Sweeny (Northern Health), Rita den Otter & Andrew Penn (Vancouver Island Health) (3:05-4:20)

Presentation content for all five health authorities were distributed within the meeting.

- Predicted Budget Costs for each health authority:
 1. Interior Health - \$200,00
 2. Fraser Health - \$365,000
 3. Vancouver Island Health Authority - \$277,000
 4. Vancouver Coastal Health - \$179,500
 5. Northern Health - \$172,500

Total = \$1,194,000

Work Plan Wrap-Up & Next Steps – Group Discussion (4:20-4:30)

- The estimates for each work plan exceeded the budget by \$228,400 and Valerie Tregillus announced that she has requested an additional \$300,000 to be funded to the stroke strategy.
- The decision by the Ministry should be announced before the beginning of May 2008.

Other Business – Mark Collison, Diane Layton, Valerie Tregillus/Philip Teal, & Devin Harris

- Diane Layton to meet with all project leads to discuss and review working plans, resource personnel for each project, and explore feasibility within time frames.
- The initial work will focus on Rehabilitation & Integration and TIA Rapid Assessment, and second on Telehealth and Measurement & Evaluation.
- Philip Teal and Valerie Tregillus discussed that there is a province-wide shortage of stroke neurologists and that acute stroke call will be shut down if current stroke neurologists leave VCH.
- Valerie Tregillus proposed a broader approach on a province-wide basis might be more valuable to address the issue led by the Ministry and Stephen Brown. A unanimous 'yes' was delivered from all health authorities and attending physicians. A meeting will be organized as follow up with the appropriate clinicians.

- Devin Harris announced that the BCMJ is interested in a Stroke/TIA themed issue. He is looking for interested contributors from the Stroke Strategy.
- The goals of this issue would be to raise awareness for the GPAC Stroke/TIA protocol and to raise awareness for the advances within the stroke strategy.
- A theme issue comprises of 4-10 articles totaling 8000-15,000 words plus a guest editorial (“The Provincial Stroke Strategy”).
- The timeline for the issue would be 6-12 months with a publication delay of 6-9 months.
- GPAC guidelines were mentioned with reference to support for primary care physicians.
- A rehabilitation conference in Winnipeg is coming up. Mark will circulate the particulars.
- The next Stroke Steering Committee Meeting to be held in October 2008.
- Next Meeting: Linda Lane-Devlin will do a presentation on the Stroke Recovery Association and Allan Holmes will update the evaluations on EDs.
- Send in any proposed agenda topics to Mark Collison well in advance.

Meeting Adjourned 5:00pm