

Neuroscience Network

Quarterly Newsletter

FEATURE STORY

In June, 2013, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital underwent our Joint Commission survey for Advanced-Disease Certification for Comprehensive Stroke. It was an intense process which occurred over two days with two expert surveyors from the Joint Commission. Our survey was positive and the surveyors recognized our leadership in areas of neuro-critical care, research and telemedicine. Thomas Jefferson University Hospital received notice of certification and is one of only 56 Comprehensive Stroke Centers in the United States.

Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification was developed by The Joint Commission in partnership with the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Stroke Association (ASA) with the goal of improving the quality and safety of care of complex stroke patients. Over time we also anticipate that municipalities and regions will develop a formal referral network so the most complicated cases can be treated at the centers best equipped to provide the specialized care that can lead to better patient outcomes.

We encourage you to contact our Neuroscience Outreach Coordinator, **Maureen DePrince (215-503-9959)**, with any questions related to Joint Commission Certification for Primary Stroke or Comprehensive Stroke. We look forward to sharing our experience and knowledge with our network partners.

FEATURE CASE

PATIENT PRESENTATION – In August 2013, a female in her 40's presented to Community Medical Center in Toms River, NJ with an acute onset of left hemiparesis while walking her dog. Her NIHSS was 9. A JET consult was initiated and IV tPA was recommended and administered without significant improvement. Patient was transferred to Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience for endovascular intervention consideration. CT Perfusion demonstrated at risk territory in the Right MCA distribution. CT Angiogram demonstrated high grade stenosis of the cervical internal carotid artery and complete occlusion of the supraclinoid carotid to the MCA.

NEUROINTERVENTION – Angioplasty was performed followed by a stent which restored flow through the cervical internal carotid artery. In addition, mechanical lysis was performed using the Solitaire device and a clot in the M1 segment was retrieved. Complete recanalization of the right hemisphere was obtained.

PATIENT OUTCOME – The patient improved significantly following the procedure and was discharged to rehab on post-stroke day 5 with a mild right pronator drift and facial droop. Her NIHSS was 2. Another excellent example of a collaborative team effort, from EMS to network hospital to tertiary center – all of these areas together impacted this patient's outcome. Great job!

EDUCATION

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER! The Neuroscience Network *Lunch & Learn* will be on Thursday, October 17, 2013 from 10:00am – 2:30pm @ Wills Eye Institute (across the street from Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience). Lunch is provided. Program is FREE to Network members! 4 CEU's awarded. **To register, go to link http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/education/programs/tju_cne/ or contact Maureen DePrince.** Topics include *Depression Screening in Acute Stroke, Management of Brain Tumors, Neuro-Critical Care* and more!

KNOWLEDGE PORTAL – More than 50 neuroscience lectures are now available on-line. Staff can watch the video independently or a hospital can host an airing at your site. All of these lectures have been part of a CME or CNE activity at Jefferson. These programs will count towards a stroke education activity as defined by The Joint Commission in most states. **Visit the website for a list of programs (www.jeffersonhospital.org/neuroknowledge) or contact Maureen DePrince for more information.**

SAVE THE DATES! Upcoming Conferences (<http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jeffcme/rsc/application>):

- 3rd Annual Neurocritical Care Symposium, January 24, 2014
- 13th Annual Cerebrovascular Update. March 20 & 21, 2014

Neuroscience Network Hospitals receive discounted rate to these conferences!

JET PROTOCOL BEST PRACTICE

REMINDERS:

- Patient Record should be entered into StrokeRESPOND before JET consult activation.
- JET consults should be requested for acute stroke patients that meet the hospital's policy for Acute Stroke (i.e., stroke symptom onset within 3 hrs, 4.5 hrs, 6 hrs or 12 hrs).
- We are currently scheduling Mock Stroke Alerts for the 4th Quarter of 2013. **Please contact Maureen DePrince to schedule a date for your hospital (maureen.deprince@jeffersonhospital.org).**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Jefferson Hospital for Neuroscience participated in the Philadelphia International Dragon Boat Race on Saturday, October 5, 2013. This event takes place every year along the banks of the Schuylkill River, with a wide range of participants from corporate, civic and community groups.

Our team, *Neu-ROW-science*, was formed to raise money for the AVM/Aneurysm and Brain Tumor Support Groups. Not only was it a successful fundraiser, but it also provided a great team building opportunity for the many departments of the hospital. Our boat even achieved 3rd place status during one of the races. Not bad for a first-year contender!

For more information about dragon boats, visit: <http://www.philadragonboatfestival.com/>



TECHNICAL SUPPORT CENTER (TAC)

Occasionally technical support is needed for either the hardware (robot) or the software application (Stroke Respond). The TAC number can be found on the "face" of the robot, or on the back of the robot. **Contact for TAC support is 1-877-484-9119.**