



Stroke Pre-alert

Setting up a resus room for a Stroke pre-alert

Stroke pre-alerts differ from others as they are usually attended by the stroke team. This generally consists of a stroke specialist nurse, a specialist stroke registrar and occasionally a stroke consultant. Out of hours the medical registrar carries the stroke bleep.

Important information to gather prior to activating stroke team:

1. Time of onset - if unknown, ascertain the time they were last seen well
2. Is an NHS number attached to the pre-alert? If you have time - look the patient up to gain important medical history

To activate stroke call dial 4444 and ask for Stroke Team to A&E Resus/Assessment and cubicle number

Considerations for A&E staff -

- If the patient has any haemodynamic/airway compromise, the resus team will support the stroke team with management
- Stroke patients need 18G (green) cannulas for their CTs - prepare the tray before arrival and assist the stroke team with cannulation and bloods
- Ensure that vital signs are documented on SEND and a 'blue cross' is completed - this can be very brief
- If the stroke team need to leave for another stroke call/thrombectomy/to return to the ward - ensure the patient is handed over and a member of the resus/assessment team is taking over the care of the patient
- If stroke assess the patient and there is no indication of stroke, they will either hand the patient back to the A&E doctors (if the patient can be sent home

directly from ED) or to the appropriate specialty directly (if needing admission)