HEART CENTER Stroke Alert Activation Process

	Call transfer center 816-234-3329 (53329) and request "Suspected Stroke" page to		
	neurology		
	 Discuss clinical scenario with Neurology Fellow/Attending via Transfer Center 		
	Neurology to determine if Stroke Alert Activation is indicated based on clinical scenario		
	 Primary team to notify cardiac intensivist of cardiac stroke activation 		
	Neurology will notify Transfer Center of Stroke Alert Activation		
	Order "Stroke Suspected" Powerplan in Cerner for all lab and imaging orders at the		
	direction of Neurology (do not use "PICU STROKE" Powerplan)		
	 To be ordered by provider currently caring for patient or Neurology 		
	 Anesthesia board runner to notify/call-in CARDIAC ANESTHESIA for MRI 		
	 If MRI brain safely possible within 60 min 		
	 Obtain MRI/MRA stroke alert series 		
	 If MRI not possible within 60 minutes or contraindicated 		
	 STAT non-contrast Head CT 		
	CT to be reviewed by Radiologist while patient in scanner:		
	If no hemorrhage: obtain CTA Head and Neck		
	If hemorrhage: page Neurosurgery (refer to Spontaneous Intracranial		
	Hemorrhage protocol for additional imaging recommendations)		
	Neurology to determine if tPA is indicated		
	 If tPA is indicated, patient should be transferred CICU 		
	CICU attending to notify on-call cardiac surgeon if patient is post-op		
	CICU attending or delegate to notify on-call cardiologist		
	 On-call cardiologist to notify EP, Heart Failure when appropriate On-Call cardiologist to notify KU cardiologist if transferring to KU 		
	 Use "PICU STROKE" Powerplan for confirmed stroke for further monitoring 		
	orders and tPA dosing (refer to tPA Administration and Monitoring guidelines)		
	 tPA for stoke can only be ordered from a STROKE powerplan 		
	 tPA should be administered in the PICU while arrangements are being 		
	made for KU transfer		
	 Hematology is available for questions but does NOT need to be 		
	immediately consulted prior to giving tPA		
	If tPA is being given and/or patient is candidate for Neuro-IR consultation, prepare for		
KU transfer			

o ECMO, VAD, Berlin Heart are NOT candidates for KU transfer

KU Transfer for CARDIAC STROKE

Neurology to communic	ate and provide sign out to l	Neuro-IR and Neurologist at KU
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- o Radiology images available on the Cloud for KU
- o Intensivist will need to provide pertinent anatomic or vascular access concerns

☐ Cardiac Intensivist to call Transfer Center 53329 to coordinate transport and sign out to KU PICU Physician (numbers below if needed, but should be done via Transfer Center)

- o Direct KU PICU number 913-588-6363
- o KU Stroke Line 913-588-3727

☐ APRN to prepare the following as part of the DC/transfer packet

- o Recent, updated cardiac anatomy diagram
- **O H&P, DC Summary including:**
 - Documentation of known femoral or neck vessel occlusion (arterial and venous, right vs left)
 - Documentation of femoral or neck ECMO cannulation sites
 - Documentation of known anatomic aorta and/or aortic arch issues (stent, coarc, stenosis, aberrant subclavian, vascular ring, etc)
 - Goal oxygen saturations
 - Most recent echo report
 - Operative Note

Patients with complex congenital heart disease will be transferred back to the CICU immediately following IR procedure. Communicate with KU NeuroIR regarding timing of repeat imaging, timing of anticoagulation, duration of tight BP parameters, and monitoring of catheter access sites.

^{**}if patient is coming by Transport from outside or CMHK, notify Neurology via Transfer Center of suspected stroke patient and route patient through CMH Main Campus ER for further evaluation and Stroke Alert Activation

CARDIAC STROKE TRANSFER CHECKLIST

On-call surgeon notified for post-op patient			
On-call cardiologist no	otified		
 Heart Failure t 	team notified if pre/po	ost transplant or actively managed by HF	
 EP/Intervention 	onal cardiology notified	d if recent EP/Cath case	
 KU pediatric c 	ardiologist on-call noti	ified	
H&P, DC Summary, Oր	perative Notes		
Recent heart diagram	with goal oxygen satu	rations	
Recent echo report			
Vessel Integrity			
Femoral arter	у		
knowr		used for ECMO cannulation YES/NO	
	RIGHT	RIGHT	
F	LEFT	LEFT	
Femoral vein	acclusion VEC/NO	used for ECMO consulation VEC/NO	
KIIOWI	occlusion YES/NO RIGHT	used for ECMO cannulation YES/NO RIGHT	
	LEFT	LEFT	
Carotid artery			
•	occlusion YES/NO	used for ECMO cannulation YES/NO	
	RIGHT	RIGHT	
	LEFT	LEFT	
Jugular Vein			
knowr	•	used for ECMO cannulation YES/NO	
	RIGHT	RIGHT	
A a uta	LEFT	LEFT	
Aorta □ Dilate	d root		
	al reconstruction (DKS	١	
	ant subclavian	ı	
□ Coarct			
0	Repaired		
0	Unrepaired		
0	Stented		
0	Other		
☐ Other			

Transport Checklist for Potential Stroke

Suspected Stroke

	Acute neurologic deficit (hemiparesis, facial droop, slurred speech, "word salad",			
	dysphagia/drooling, unilateral eye deviation, vision loss, focal deficit after seizure, etc)			
	☐ Young children may have sudden onset of irritability, altered LOC, or first time unprov			
	seizure as initial presenting symptom			
	Notify MCP ASAP of suspected stroke			
	STAT neurology consultation by MCP via phone call			
	Potential TPA candidates			
	≥ 24mo of age			
	 Last seen well <4.5 hrs from presentation 			
	 Confirmed clot on neuroimaging 			
	Potential candidate for neuroradiology intervention			
	≥ 24mo of age			
	 Last seen well <24hrs but >4.5hrs from symptom onset 			
	 Confirmed clot on neuroimaging 			
Stroke	Specific Clinical Questions			
	Time child was last seen well			
	/ P			
	$\ \square$ Current aspirin, lovenox, or other anticoagulation use			
	☐ Major stroke, head trauma, or intracranial surgery in last 3 months			
	GI or urinary bleeding with last 21 days			
	Major surgery within last 10 days			
	Past Medical History (congenital heart disease, sickle cell disease, cancer)			
	NPO status			
Clinical	Management			
	Obtain hard copy of any neuroimaging			
	NPO			
	Large bore IV in antecubital vein (at least 22g for small children)			
	Isotonic IVF			
	Avoid hypotension			
	Avoid hyper/hypoglycemia			
	Keep HOB flat to promote cerebral perfusion			
	Treat seizures per Transport Seizure Protocol			
	Maintain normothermia, treat with rectal Tylenol if febrile			
	Evaluate at CMH Adele Hall ER			

Last edit 10/1/2025 Jennifer Flint, MD

tPA Administration and Monitoring Guidelines

DOSING:

- □ Patients ≤100 kg: Total dose 0.9mg/kg (maximum total dose: 90mg)
 - o 10% of total dose given as bolus over 5 minutes
 - o Remaining 90% of dose as continuous infusion over 55 minutes
- ☐ Patients >100 kg: Total dose 90mg
 - o 9mg (10% of 90mg) as IV bolus over 5 minutes
 - o Remaining 81mg (90% of 90mg) as continuous infusion over 55minutes

MONITORING:

- ☐ Neuro checks q15 minutes during infusion and first 2 hours post infusion
 - STOP tPA infusion if patient develops severe HA, nausea/ vomiting, acute HTN, or other concern for acute intracranial hemorrhage
- □ VS q15 minutes during infusion and first 2 hours post infusion
 - BP parameters for tPA

AGE	50%ile for SBP	95%ile for SBP	>15% above	>20% above
			95%ile for SBP	95%ile for SBP
1-4 years	90	112	129	134
5 years	95	113	130	136
6-10 years	96	121	139	145
11-18 years	105	140	161	168
>18 years	110	140	161	168

- Goal SBP >50%ile for age but no more than >20% above 95%ile for age
- IF SBP >15% above 95%ile for 1+hr, notify MCP, start anti-hypertensive therapy
- IF SBP >20 above 95%ile at ANY TIME, notify MCP, start antihypertensive therapy

☐ HTN Management

- Hydralazine 0.1mg/kg/dose IV q20 minutes x 3 doses (max dose 20mg)
- o Nicardipine infusion 0.5mcg/kg/min, titrate by 0.5mcg/kg/min q15-30 minutes
- AVOID lowering SBP by >25% of highest SBP during the first 24 hours
- ☐ Anaphylaxis or angioedema
 - o DC tPA immediately and notify MCP
 - Monitor for tongue swelling/airway edema
 - Methylprednisolone 2mg/kg IV (max dose 60mg), diphenhydramine 1mg/kg IV (max dose 50mg)
 - Avoid racemic epi (may increase risk of intracranial bleeding)
 - o Fluid bolus and epinephrine for hypotension
- ☐ Indications to STOP tPA immediately
 - New, severe headache, acute HTN, nausea/vomiting, or other concern for acute intracranial hemorrhage
 - Acute hypotension
 - Anaphylaxis or angioedema
 - Serious bleeding