

New Clinical Guidelines: Pediatric Ischemic Stroke Acute Treatment

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The incidence of acute pediatric stroke is low (2-13/100,000) but needs to be readily recognized and evaluated promptly. Although half of pediatric strokes are cryptogenic with a low recurrence rate, up to two-thirds of patients can have neurological deficits following their stroke. Some of the largest barriers to prompt evaluation include the time from symptom onset to diagnosis both in and out of the hospital, provider education, and availability of neuroimaging especially in the setting of requiring sedation. New clinical guidelines have been developed at Golisano Children's Hospital to help identify, evaluate and treat acute pediatric stroke patients within 12 hours of last known normal. These guidelines will help identify those patients with confirmed acute ischemic stroke within 12 hours of symptom onset who are eligible for acute intervention such as tissue plasminogen activator (alteplase) or endovascular intervention.