

# Mobile Stroke Unit





## Upstate NY's First Mobile Stroke Unit

UR Medicine's **Comprehensive Stroke Center** has now **extended its reach** into the **greater Rochester community** by putting its **services on the road**.

A new Mobile Stroke Unit (MSU), the first of its kind in the Western and Central New York, will bring the resources of an emergency room directly to the stroke victim's driveway. The fully equipped van includes critical components to improve stroke outcomes and significantly reduce the time from the onset of symptoms to the delivery of care.

When the MSU gets a call to hit the road, it brings CT scan capability and blood clot-busting medications (IV-tPA) directly to the patient, where clot busters can be administered within minutes of the onset of the stroke—saving valuable time and in turn, saving brain function. The sooner a stroke victim receives lifesaving care, the more likely he or she is to experience a functional recovery and reduced disability.

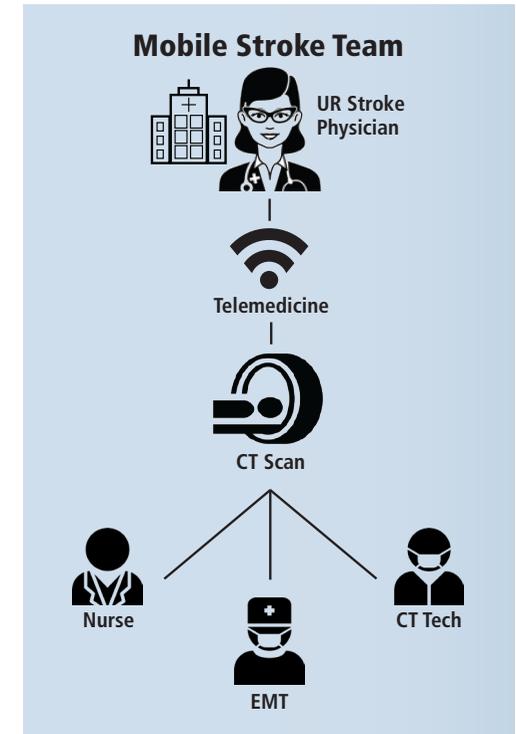
Highly specialized staff members travel in the MSU, including a CT scanner operator, an emergency medical technician, and a trained stroke nurse who communicates directly with the stroke neurologist at URM to determine the most appropriate therapy.

The MSU will be the latest addition to the stroke center's capabilities in 2018. Earlier this year, the center added a regional telestroke program, enabling hospitals in neighboring counties to access 24/7 availability of a consultation with a member of the UR Medicine stroke team. "We hope to assist Emergency Medicine physicians in the region by providing recommendations involving thrombolytic treatment or endovascular intervention for patients who present with an acute stroke," said Tarun Bhalla, MD, PhD, Director of Stroke and Cerebrovascular services.

"Serving as the region's only Joint Commission-designated Comprehensive Stroke Center is both an honor and a responsibility," he added. "We view this role in the community as part of our responsibility as a Comprehensive Stroke Center, as we work to improve stroke care for every patient in every hospital across the region."



*Breaking new ground in acute stroke care in Upstate New York*



FEWER THAN  
**0.1%**  
OF STROKE PATIENTS  
IN THE U.S. RECEIVE  
EFFECTIVE TREATMENT  
**WITHIN 1 HOUR**  
OF SYMPTOM ONSET

DURING  
THAT HOUR,  
MORE THAN 120  
**MILLION**  
BRAIN CELLS  
MAY DIE

THE MOBILE STROKE UNIT CAN POTENTIALLY  
DIAGNOSE STROKE IN LESS THAN  
**5 MINUTES**  
ALLOWING TREATMENT THAT MAY  
DECREASE THAT DAMAGE SIGNIFICANTLY