

Northwestern Ontario Regional Stroke Network (NWORSN)
2016 -2020 Strategic Plan
Supporting Stroke Care across the Continuum



***To be a leader and effective advisor
for stroke care***

Enhance and strengthen engagement opportunities between the NWORSN and stakeholders

- Collaborate with support groups
- Ensure appropriate cross continuum representation on all advisory committees
- Engage providers in chronic disease prevention, primary care, and Emergency Medical Services in NWORSN initiatives
- Explore opportunities for collaboration in the community re-integration sector and establish partnerships

Improve stroke outcomes

- Monitor, evaluate and interpret data to inform action plans
- Communicate stroke outcomes to stakeholders

Promote rapid assessment models for Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) and Mild Non-Disabling Stroke (MNDS)

- Disseminate the “Northwestern Ontario TIA and MNDS triage toolkit” to primary care and emergency departments and evaluate the effectiveness
- Assess the opportunity to establish a rapid TIA and MNDS assessment clinic at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre
- Collaborate with TBRHSC emergency department to develop a business plan for a TIA and MNDS clinic

Review regional stroke prevention model

- Evaluate the current state of stroke prevention services
- Align stroke prevention clinic services with Ontario Stroke Network initiatives

Advance stroke care through the expanded use of technology

- Incorporate transformational technology to support stroke care initiatives

***To lead and support best practice
in stroke care***

Enhance the implementation of Quality Based Procedures (QBP)

- Support existing acute and inpatient rehabilitation QBP strategies and continuous quality improvement initiatives
- Define strategies to implement QBP recommendations for the post-acute episode of care

Advance and support implementation of practice change

- Promote and provide education for stakeholders
- Support the dissemination of stroke educational resources
- Design and support implementation initiatives
- Enhance public awareness initiatives
- Identify opportunities to improve quality of care

Improve the patient and family experience

- Support the delivery of specialized clinical services in the Regional Stroke Unit
- Establish a flow map that illustrates the patient journey
- Optimize the role of the patient and family advisor in NWORSN activities
- Disseminate information to stakeholders to support regional stroke care

***To respond to the specific needs
of indigenous stroke care***

Engage and support those providing health care in indigenous communities

- Establish partnerships with leading indigenous health authorities and stakeholders

Improve awareness of the stroke system in Northwestern Ontario

- Develop a future state care pathway to access stroke services from remote communities within NWO

Enhance health care provider awareness of the impact of traditional practices related to stroke

- Engage and collaborate with experts
- Identify the potential interactions of traditional food and medicines on evidence-based practices
- Explore opportunities for research

1. Stakeholders are actively engaged
2. People with TIA/MNDS receive rapid assessment & care
3. Northwestern Ontario stroke prevention services are aligned provincially
4. Stroke outcomes are improved
5. Use of technology is optimized

Success Criteria

1. Stroke best practices are integrated into care
2. Patients and families are engaged in care
3. Patient transitions are seamless

1. Relationships support optimal stroke care for indigenous people
2. Transitions from remote communities are successful
3. Traditional practices are acknowledged