

# An Early Supported Discharge Pilot

*Bridging hospital to home by enhancing a rural  
community stroke rehab team*

Lyndsey Butler, OT Reg. (Ont)

Bonita Thompson, RN BA



**Stroke Network**  
Southwestern Ontario

Serving Erie St. Clair and South West LHINs

# Evaluation

For **the Provincial Stroke Rounds Planning Committee**:

- To plan future programs
- For quality assurance and improvement
- To demonstrate compliance with national accreditation requirements

For **You**: Reflecting on what you've learned and how you plan to apply it can help you enact change as you return to your professional duties

For **Speakers**: The responses help understand participant learning needs, and teaching outcomes, opportunities for improvement.

<https://bit.do/PSR1819>



Please take 2 minutes to fill the evaluation form out ~ Thank you!

# An Early Supported Discharge Pilot

*Bridging hospital to home by enhancing a rural  
community stroke rehab team*

Lyndsey Butler, OT Reg. (Ont)

Bonita Thompson, RN BA



**Stroke Network**  
Southwestern Ontario

Serving Erie St. Clair and South West LHINs

# Mitigating Potential Bias

## (Planning Committee)

**The Provincial Stroke Rounds Planning Committee** mitigated bias by ensuring there was no Industry involvement in planning or education content.

To comply with accreditation requirements of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, speakers were provided with Declaration of Conflict of Interest forms, which were reviewed by the Ontario Regional Education Group (OREG) Host member on behalf of the Planning Committee and submitted to the NOSM CEPD Office.

The Ontario Regional Education Group (OREG) Host member on behalf of the Planning Committee reviewed the initial presentation supplied by the speaker to ensure no evidence of bias.

# An Early Supported Discharge Pilot

*Bridging hospital to home by enhancing a rural  
community stroke rehab team*

Lyndsey Butler, OT Reg. (Ont)

Bonita Thompson, RN BA



# Disclosure of Affiliations, Financial Support, & Mitigating Bias

**Speaker Name:** Lyndsey Butler

**Affiliations:** I have no relationships with for-profit or not-for-profit organizations

**Financial Support:** This session/program has not received financial or in-kind support.

# Objectives

---

- Describe the Early Supported Discharge model of care
- Identify key elements to establish an Early Supported Discharge approach
- Discuss the challenges and benefits of an Early Supported Discharge model

# What is Early Supported Discharge?

---

- Time-limited rehabilitative care in the community
- Designed to accelerate the transition from hospital to home, alternative to a complete course of inpatient rehabilitation
- Delivered by a well-resourced, specialized, interprofessional team
- 5 days per week, same level of intensity as in the inpatient setting
- Most suitable for mild to moderate stroke survivors who are medically stable and have required resources and support to manage safely at home



# What are the Benefits?

---

- Canadian Best Practice Recommendations for Stroke Care
- Health Quality Ontario's *Quality Based Procedures: Clinical Handbook for Stroke (Acute and Post-Acute)*
  - ✓ reduce adverse events
  - ✓ improve patients' activities of daily living
  - ✓ improve patient satisfaction scores
  - ✓ reduce hospital length of stay and costs

Heart and Stroke Foundation (2016). Canadian stroke best practice recommendations. <http://www.strokebestpractices.ca>

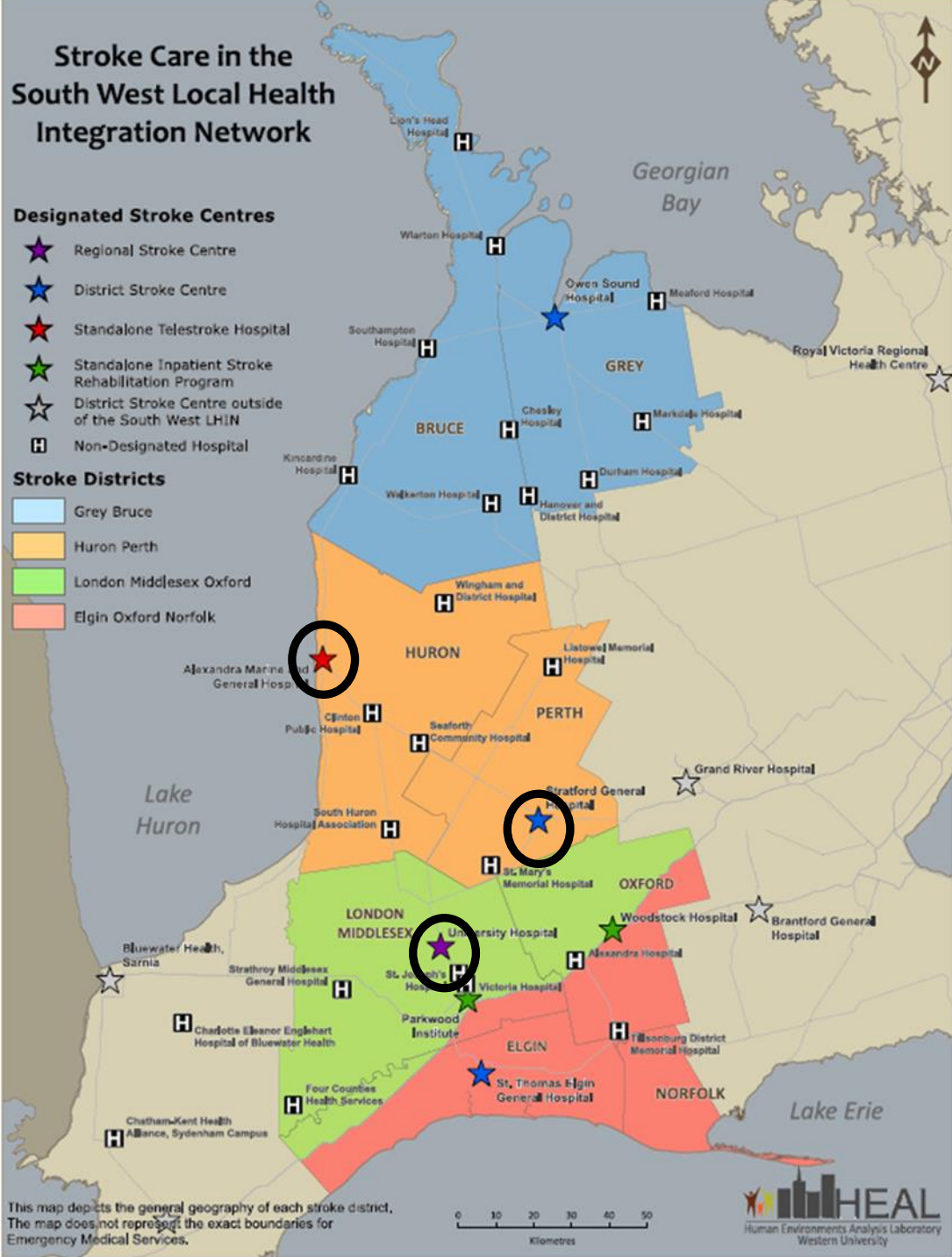
Health Quality Ontario. (2015). Quality-based procedures: clinical handbook for stroke.

[http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/ecfa/docs/qbp\\_stroke.pdf](http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/ecfa/docs/qbp_stroke.pdf)

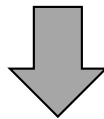
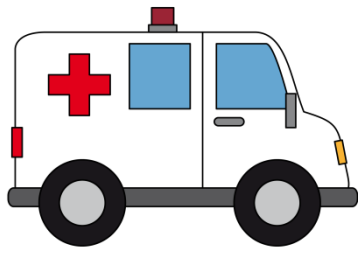
Langhorne & Baylan (2017) Early supported discharge services for people with acute stroke (Review) Cochrane Library.

[https://www.cochrane.org/CD000443/STROKE\\_services-reducing-duration-hospital-care-people-acute-stroke](https://www.cochrane.org/CD000443/STROKE_services-reducing-duration-hospital-care-people-acute-stroke)

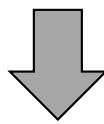
# Stroke Care in Huron and Perth Counties



Bypass non designated hospitals to most appropriate designated stroke centre for hyperacute care



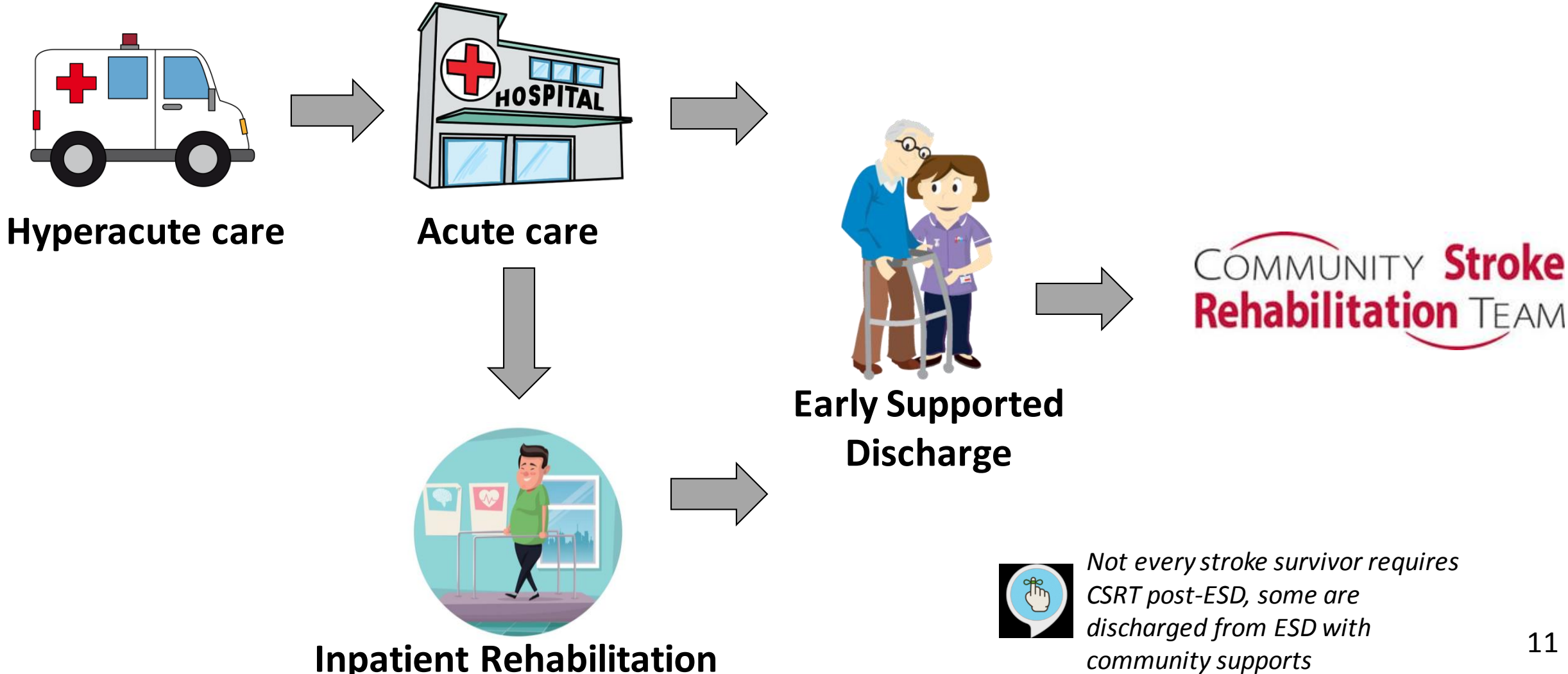
Receive acute, and if needed, rehab care on integrated Stroke Unit at Stratford General Hospital



Receive community rehab via stroke-specific interprofessional team



# ESD Program in Huron and Perth Counties



*Not every stroke survivor requires CSRT post-ESD, some are discharged from ESD with community supports*

# ESD Program

## Acute ESD patients

- 5 business days of daily therapy

## Rehab ESD patients

- 10 business days of daily therapy

## Timeline Targets

- Within 24 hrs: Rapid Response Nurse
- Within 48 hrs: First Therapy visit

Provider	Week 1	Week 2
Physiotherapist	3 (1 hr) visits	2 (1 hr) visits
Occupational Therapist	3 (1 hr) visits	2 (1 hr) visits
Speech Language Pathologist	3 (1 hr) visits	2 (1 hr) visits
Rehabilitation Therapist	2 (2.5 hr) visits	3 (2.5 hr) visits
LHIN HCC Rapid Response Nurse	1 (1hr) visit	0
<b>TOTAL TREATMENT TIME</b>	<b>15 hrs</b>	<b>13.5 hrs</b>



## ***What about Recreation Therapist and Social Work?***

*Integral member of Community Stroke Rehab Team and consulted as needed during ESD.*

# Evaluation

---

- **Patient/caregiver and staff experience**
  - Surveys
  - Interviews
- **Outcomes/service provision**
  - Prepilot cohort
  - Therapy intensity
  - FIM, RNLI, PHQ9, Zarit Caregiver burden, PROMIS-10
- **System impacts**
  - Hospital days saved
  - days from stroke onset to admission to rehab
  - % of acute patients admitted to stroke bed
  - LOS
  - % of ALC-rehab
  - 90-day mortality and readmission rate



# What are we seeing so far?

- Patients enrolled to date: 50
- Percent of discharged patients referred to ESD: 48%
- ESD services required:



Provider	Expected % of patients	Actual % of patients
Physiotherapist	100%	95%
Occupational Therapist	100%	100%
Speech Language Pathologist	50%	55%
Rehabilitation Therapist	100%	95%
Recreation Therapist	?	18%
Social Worker	?	32%
Rapid Response Nurse	100%	100%

# Patient Experience

- Survey question: Would you recommend this team to another family member or friend needing this type of service?
  - 100% Strongly Agree/Agree
- Continuity of care
- Caregiver support
- Sleeping in own bed
- Eating own food
- Client-driven goals
- Looking forward to visits

“I feel we are very fortunate in our community to have this ~~service~~ service. I know it has helped me and many others. I hope you continue.”

~ ESD Patient

# Outcomes

- Patient outcomes at time of ESD discharge

<b>Outcome measure</b>	<b>ESD cohort Acute median (n)</b>	<b>ESD cohort Rehab median (n)</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>
RNLI	16.0 (12)	15.5 (30)	Range 0-22, 22 greater reintegration
PHQ 9	1.0 (12)	3.0 (29)	0-4 minimal depression
Zarit	5.5 (6)	15.0 (19)	0-20 little to no burden





# Outcomes

---

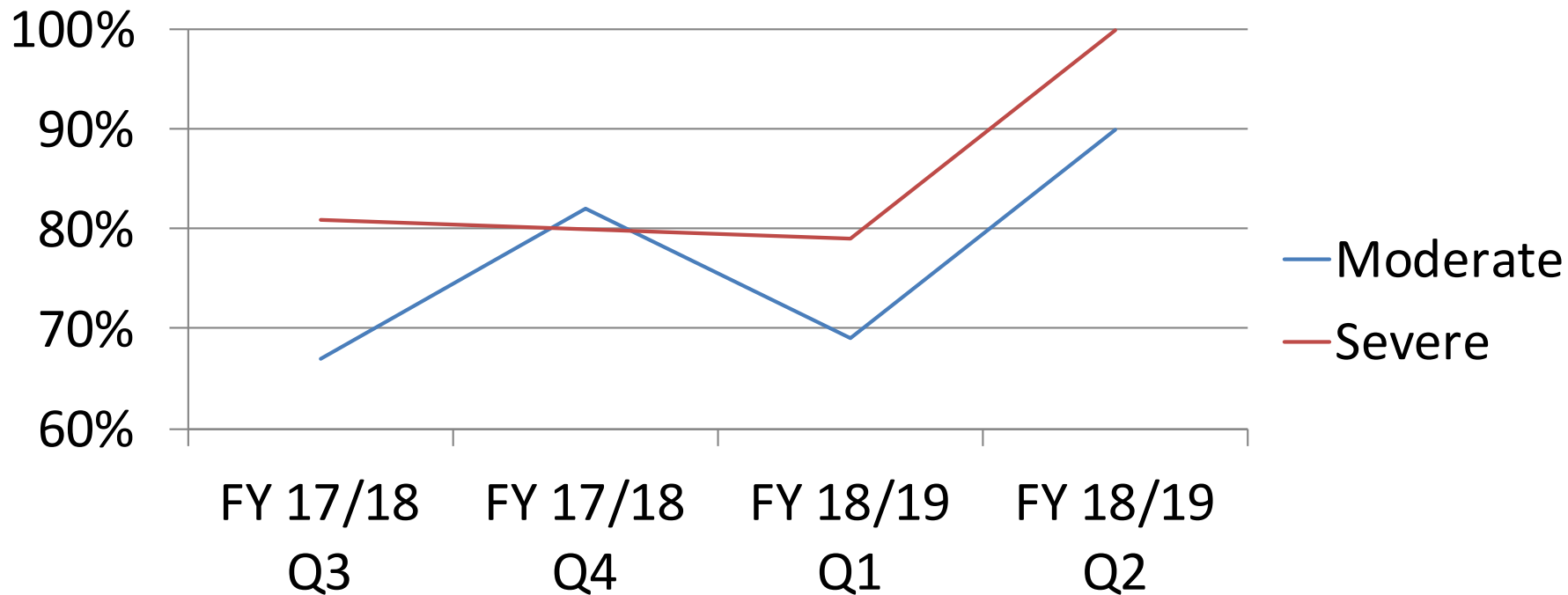
- Cohort comparison

Cohort (n)	FIM efficiency (median)
Pre-pilot: rehab inpt (8)	0.72
Pilot: rehab inpt + ESD (26)	0.98

- ESD intensity
- ALC
- Downstream impacts



# Achieving Stroke QBP LOS Targets



## Key Message

- ESD supporting patients achieving their target active length of stay

# Achieving Stroke QBP LOS Targets

RPG	#	Inpt Rehab LOS (mean)	ESD LOS (mean)	Inpt+ESD LOS	Stroke QBP Rehab LOS target
1100	3	25.3	9.3	34.7	48.9
1110	11	28.9	12.4	41.3	41.8
1120	6	21.7	12.7	34.3	35.8
1130	4	12.5	11.8	24.3	25.2
1140	10	10.1	12.3	22.4	14.7

## Key Message:

- Combined inpatient and ESD LOS is meeting Stroke QBP LOS targets



# Cost Impact

---

- Cost analysis currently under review
- No true savings, but anticipating efficiencies:
  - Patient experience/outcomes
  - Access/flow in organization



# Lessons Learned

---

## Patients

- Intensity of ESD
- Communication tools
- Estimating discharge date
- Peer support

"It [Peer support program] provided you with hope. You saw them walking in and you saw that they were part of the community again. It was uplifting."

- ESD patient

"As a hospital nursing staff, I often feel 'out of the loop' with the therapy teams regarding ESD. I feel like there could be more communication between therapies and nursing. Families frequently ask questions to nursing staff and it's best if we're all on the same page."

- Inpatient Nurse

## Inpatient team

- Culture change
- Designated lead
- ESD communication, coordination and processes

# Lessons Learned

---

- **Community team**
  - Existing interdisciplinary structure with stroke expertise
  - Blended inpatient/community staffing model
  - Scheduling – geography, weather, notification
  - Indirect time
  - 1 team/2 different programs



# Lessons Learned

---

- **Management**
  - HR FTE complements
- **Evaluation**
  - Data collection and retrieval
  - Isolating ESD direct impact
  - One size does not fit all



# Next Steps

---

- Community Stroke Rehab Team model re-evaluation
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- South West LHIN





# Acknowledgements

---

- Front-line teams
- Steering Committee and Project Team
- Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance
- Southwestern Ontario Stroke Network
- South West LHIN
- Ivey International Centre for Health Innovation

# Questions?

---



**Lyndsey Butler OT Reg. (Ont)**

Regional Rehabilitation Coordinator, SWOSN

[Lyndsey.butler@lhsc.on.ca](mailto:Lyndsey.butler@lhsc.on.ca)

**Bonita Thompson RN BA**

District Stroke Manager Huron Perth

[bonita.thompson@hpha.ca](mailto:bonita.thompson@hpha.ca)

# Evaluation

For **the Provincial Stroke Rounds Planning Committee**:

- To plan future programs
- For quality assurance and improvement
- To demonstrate compliance with national accreditation requirements

For **You**: Reflecting on what you've learned and how you plan to apply it can help you enact change as you return to your professional duties

For **Speakers**: The responses help understand participant learning needs, and teaching outcomes, opportunities for improvement.

<https://bit.do/PSR1819>



Please take 2 minutes to fill the evaluation form out ~ Thank you!