



American Heart Association.  
Mission: Lifeline®  
Stroke

MONTANA  
Stroke Initiative



Dear Providers:

You are receiving standardized stroke guidelines as a part of the Montana Stroke Initiative's and Mission: Lifeline Stroke Montana's effort to improve stroke patient outcomes.

These guidelines are in the form of algorithms and order sets that can be used as is or to inform existent facility-based stroke workflows. These guidelines have been vetted and agreed upon by the stroke medical directors from Montana's certified stroke centers.

The intent of these guidelines is:

1. To develop and promote a standardized, streamlined course of action for stroke and TIA patients that arrive at Montana's critical access hospitals and clinics to provide a plan of care for acute management.
2. To ensure all stroke and TIA patients are provided the opportunity for the most appropriate evidence-based care recommended in national standards set forth by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.
3. To give healthcare providers in critical access hospitals the confidence to act without having to delay treatment while obtaining a neurology consult.

Consensus based statewide guidelines are a core component of a highly functioning stroke system of care. The Montana Stroke Initiative and Mission: Lifeline Stroke recommend their use by all hospitals. Through data collection in the Get With The Guidelines®- Stroke registry, progress toward adherence to national standards, education program impact, and system goals will be monitored. The Montana Stroke Initiative along with the Department of Public Health and Human Services can regularly receive reports of these data which will allow them to adjust the programming and guidelines as needed.

If you would like a physician or a representative from a certified stroke center to provide more information or education regarding these stroke guidelines, please contact Joani Guzman Mission: Lifeline Stroke Montana at [joani.guzman@heart.org](mailto:joani.guzman@heart.org) or Mike McNamara from the Montana Stroke Initiative at [mmcnamara@mt.gov](mailto:mmcnamara@mt.gov).

Respectfully Submitted,

Joani Guzman, Quality Improvement Manager for Mission: Lifeline Stroke Montana  
And

Mike McNamara, Cardiovascular Disease Specialist, Montana Cardiovascular Health Program



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