

# A New Era for Stroke

**The Stroke Association's  
Manifesto for General Election  
candidates in England**

*Together we can conquer stroke*

**Stroke**  
association

In December 2017 the National Stroke Strategy for England comes to an end. We want candidates to support a new national plan for stroke if they are elected. A plan is needed to drive reorganisation, improve access to treatment, and address the often poor and variable care that stroke survivors receive once they leave hospital. It needs a national approach that includes the whole stroke pathway to ensure that strokes are prevented, patients access lifesaving treatments, and survivors have lifelong support when they need it most.

## **The key deliverables we would like to see in a national plan are:**

### **1. All eligible patients receive thrombolysis and thrombectomy**

Stroke hospital services need to reorganise so that all patients can access vital treatments. Thrombolysis – a clot busting drug - saves lives and helps reduce the chance of disability post stroke. Around 2,000 eligible patients currently do not receive this drug each year. If they got it, the NHS would save £54million by 2020.

Thrombectomy – the mechanical removal of a clot – is now approved for use on the NHS, but we urgently need more trained staff to deliver this game-changing procedure.

### **2. Stroke survivors get access to Early Supported Discharge (ESD)**

1 in 5 hospitals don't have an Early Supported Discharge team to help stroke survivors return home sooner and access essential physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, and other support to aid their recovery. By 2020, if all of hospitals have ESD and 40% of stroke patients receive it, the NHS will save £55million.

### **3. Six-month reviews for all stroke survivors**

Only 1 in 3 stroke survivors receive a review of their progress six months after their stroke. This means too many stroke survivors do not get the help they need to continue their recovery. A six month review service can easily be funded with money saved by improvements in acute care.

Find out more at [stroke.org.uk/GE17](https://stroke.org.uk/GE17)

Pledge your support now by emailing [campaigns@stroke.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@stroke.org.uk)

# If these changes aren't made...

Imagine all 650 MPs were stroke survivors



The NHS would miss out on saving over **£1million** over 5 years through improving access to Early Supported Discharge.



The NHS would miss out on saving **£2.7million** over 5 years through improving thrombolysis rates.



**448** would not get a six month review following their stroke



**293** would feel abandoned after stroke



**163** would wait over five months for mental health support

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## **We are the Stroke Association**

We believe in life after stroke. That's why we support stroke survivors to make the best recovery they can. It's why we campaign for better stroke care. And it's why we fund research to develop new treatments and ways of preventing stroke.

## **Together we can conquer stroke.**

**Stroke Helpline:** 0303 3033 100

**Website:** [stroke.org.uk](https://stroke.org.uk)

**Email:** [info@stroke.org.uk](mailto:info@stroke.org.uk)

**From a textphone:** 18001 0303 3033 100

We are a charity and we rely on your support to change the lives of people affected by stroke and reduce the number of people who are struck down by this devastating condition.

**Please help us to make a difference today.**

# **Together we can conquer stroke**