UK Child Stroke Guidelines

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Stroke & Children

Epidemiology
• 1.3 – 13 / 100,000 children per year. Approx 400 children / yr
• Approx 50% ischaemic 50% haemorrhagic
• Delays to diagnosis; frequent comorbidity

Risk factors
• Absent in around 50% of children with AIS.
• Most prevalent - arteriopathies, cardiac disorders, infection.
Stroke & Children - Outcome

• In top 10 causes of death in childhood

• Early injury not necessarily better outcome

• Childhood onset stroke – over half lasting neurological disability; emergence of sequelae impacting home and school

• Broader impact on family
Clinical Practice

Guidelines

• National Clinical Guidelines 2004 (RCP) – ischaemic stroke, non-neonates
• CHEST antithrombotic guidelines 2012
• AHA Scientific statement management stroke infants & children 2008

Services

• MRI as standard 2 dedicated stroke outpatient services – Evelina Children’s Hospital, Great Ormond St Hospital
• Wide variation in service availability; typically short admission
Research

International Pediatric Stroke Study – multicentre registry

Focus of current child stroke research

• Risk factors
• Diagnosis – reducing delay
• Radiological classification
• Acute management
• Outcome across health domains

Rehabilitation studies beyond stroke population
What service users are telling us

The Child Stroke Project – partnership between the Stroke Association and Evelina London Children’s Hospital

- Provision of family support service nationally
- Development of educational materials and raising public awareness
- Multicentre study of unmet needs

House of Lords debates 2014 & 2015

Research priorities of young people, carers, professionals

- Motor, cognition, communication (Edwards et al 2014)
- Optimal frequency and intensity of mainstream therapies (Morris et al 2015)
Childhood stroke guideline - What will be covered?

- The guideline will cover; Identification, Diagnosis, early management and rehabilitation of children aged >28 days with acute arterial ischaemic stroke and non-traumatic intra-cranial haemorrhagic stroke.

- Aiming at reducing the brain damage, preventing subsequent stroke, and optimising potential for function and participation.
Childhood Stroke guideline development –Who

Developer and publisher: RCPCH, Research & Policy division

Funder: Stroke Association

Guideline development group (GDG):
• Chaired by Dr. Vijeya Ganesan, Consultant Paediatric Neurologist and Lecturer Institute of Child health UCL.
• Clinical representation from over 20 professional bodies and charities as well as lay members.

Registered stakeholders: over 35 national and international bodies
Childhood Stroke Guideline - the development process 2015-17

Scope
- Remit & scoping
- GDG & stakeholder identification
- Scope consultation & finalisation

Development
- Review questions development
- Evidence review & synthesis

Recommendations & consultation
- Recommendation development
- Stakeholder consultation

Post consultation
- Finalisation
- Publication
Clinicians’ involvement

- GDG members

- Consultees on draft guidelines through their registered professional bodies or organisations

- Opportunities for involvement in consensus development and peer reviewing
Parents, children, young people and adults with personal experience of stroke in childhood – opportunities for involvement

• Input into the development of the draft guidelines:
  • Two lay members of the GDG.
  • Wider involvement through focus groups to capture personal experience, help fill evidence gaps on preferences and support needs.

• Reviewing the draft Guidelines.
• Development of lay communication/dissemination materials.
• Supporting the dissemination of the guidelines.
Stroke Guideline development- Progress

• Draft scope consulted on August 2015.

• Scope finalised and clinical questions developed.

• Searching and reviewing evidence is currently underway.

• Consultation on the draft guideline expected October 2016.

• Launch and publication of the final guideline planned for March 2017.
Childhood Stroke guideline- Expected outputs

- Full online guideline.
- Quick reference guideline for easy access.
- Lay summary
- Information booklet for parents and young persons.
- Wide dissemination to increase awareness supported by RCPCH and SA
THANK YOU

For more information or to get involved:
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