Controversies in Stroke Care:
Redefining Exclusion/Inclusion Criteria for IV tPA Use

June 20, 2012

This activity is jointly sponsored by Medical Education Resources and National Stroke Association

This activity is supported by an educational grant from Genentech, Inc and Penumbra, Inc.

Target Audience
The target audience for this activity are neurologists, neuroscience nurses, emergency department physicians and nurses, hospitalists.
Statement of Need/Program Overview

Significant knowledge/practice gaps exist across the continuum of stroke care. Stroke is highly preventable, yet nearly 800,000 strokes occur each year. Although effective treatments exist that could benefit up to 40% of stroke patients, fewer than 10% of stroke patients actually receive these treatments.

Controversy is a hallmark of new ideas in medicine. As an education strategy, the identification and exploration of controversial topics enables an effective debate about unresolved issues, resulting in greater consensus that is supported by evidence-based medicine and expert opinion.

Learning Objectives

Learning Goal/Purpose: To raise awareness among clinicians of the controversies regarding current tPA inclusion/exclusion criteria

As a result of this activity, the participant should be better able to:

- Discuss the history and background of NINDS TPA study criteria
- Evaluate their respective hospital’s protocol for using IV TPA in acute ischemic stroke
- Describe a rationale for modifying current IV TPA treatment protocols

Physician Accreditation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of Medical Education Resources (MER) and National Stroke Association. MER is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit Designation

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
Nurse Accreditation

Medical Education Resources is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

This CE activity provides 1 contact hour of continuing nursing education.

Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 12299 for 1 contact hour.

Moderator

Mark J. Alberts, MD
Professor of Neurology
Chief of the Division of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Disease
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Director of the Stroke Program
Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, IL

Faculty

James C. Grotta, MD
Director, Vascular Neurology Program
Professor and Chairman, Department of Neurology
Roy M. and Phyllis Gough Huffington Distinguished Chair
UTHealth Medical School

Arthur Pancioli, MD
Professor and Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine
University of Cincinnati
Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Medical Education Resources ensures balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all our educational activities. In accordance with this policy, MER identifies conflicts of interest with its instructors, content managers, and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of an activity. Conflicts are resolved by MER to ensure that all scientific research referred to, reported, or used in a CME activity conforms to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, and analysis. MER is committed to providing its learners with high-quality CME activities that promote improvements or quality in health care and not the business interest of a commercial interest.

Faculty Disclosures

Dr. Mark J. Alberts - consultant and speaker for Genentech

Dr. James Grotta - grant/research support from Lundbeck

Dr. Arthur Pancioll - consultant for Banyan International (Advisory Committee)

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest cont.

The content managers reported the following financial relationships with commercial interests whose products or services may be mentioned in this CME activity:

Denise Henasey, NSA, has no financial relationships to disclose.

Victoria C. Smith, MD, MER has no financial relationships to disclose.

Veronda Smith, FNP-BC, MER has no financial relationships to disclose.
Disclaimer

The content and views presented in this educational activity are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medical Education Resources, National Stroke Association, Genentech and/or Penumbra Inc. The authors have disclosed if there is any discussion of published and/or investigational uses of agents that are not indicated by the FDA in their presentations. The opinions expressed in this educational activity are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the views of Medical Education Resources, National Stroke Association, Genentech and/or Penumbra Inc. The authors have disclosed if there is any discussion of published and/or investigational uses of agents that are not indicated by the FDA in their presentations. The opinions expressed in this educational activity are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the views of Medical Education Resources, National Stroke Association, Genentech and/or Penumbra Inc. MER’s ANCC accreditation status does not imply endorsement by MER or ANCC of any commercial products displayed in conjunction with this activity. Before prescribing any medicine, primary references and full prescribing information should be consulted. Any procedures, medications, or other courses of diagnosis or treatment discussed or suggested in this activity should not be used by clinicians without evaluation of their patient’s conditions and possible contraindications on dangers in use, review of any applicable manufacturer’s product information, and comparison with recommendations of other authorities. The information presented in this activity is not meant to serve as a guideline for patient management.

To Ask a Question of the Faculty...

Type question here. Make sure “Send to:” drop down is marked to All Panelists

Controversies in Stroke Care:

tPA exclusion/inclusion criteria in cases involving
Mild or Rapidly Improving Symptoms
Anticoagulants
Seizures
How common is it that you see patients with rapidly improving stroke symptoms who then go on to have a deterioration in their condition?

What drives your decision about when and how to treat patients with rapidly improving stroke symptoms or mild symptoms?

Dr. James C. Grotta
Anticoagulants

The new oral anticoagulants pose a challenge in terms of using IV TPA in patients taking these medications.

What factors would influence your decision to administer IV TPA to such patients?
Anticoagulants

Why would patients taking the new oral anticoagulants have a stroke despite such therapy?

---

tPA in Patients with Seizures

The guidelines recommend not using IV TPA in patients with a seizure at stroke onset. Do you agree with this recommendation?

---

tPA in Patients with Seizures

Why would you use or not use IV TPA in such patients?
To Ask a Question of the Faculty...

Type question here. Make sure “Send to:” drop down is marked to All Panelists.

CME/CE Credit

Anyone wishing to receive appropriate CME/CE credit must complete the post-test and evaluation and return to National Stroke Association.

Contact Valerie Siebert-Thomas at vsiebert-thomas@stroke.org if you have any questions.

For information on upcoming programs and activities, go to www.stroke.org/meded.