

## **Agreement 11: Stroke Recovery Comprehensive Care Model**

**Parties:** NeuroRestore Technologies and Norwegian Public Health Service **Country:** Norway **Disease Area:** Ischemic Stroke Recovery **Agreement Overview:** This innovative agreement addresses the high costs and variable outcomes associated with post-stroke rehabilitation and recovery. Targeting approximately 950 patients annually who have experienced moderate to severe ischemic stroke, this contract integrates acute care, rehabilitation services, assistive technologies, and long-term support into a seamless value-based model. The agreement specifically incentivizes functional recovery, reduction in permanent disability, and return to independent living.

### **Financial Structure:**

- Episode-based payment: NOK 385,000 per patient for 12-month post-stroke care pathway
- Initial allocation: 40% (NOK 154,000) paid upon patient enrollment within 7 days of stroke
- Outcome-based installments:
  - 20% (NOK 77,000) at 3 months based on Barthel Index improvement of  $\geq 20$  points
  - 25% (NOK 96,250) at 6 months for achieving modified Rankin Scale  $\leq 3$
  - 15% (NOK 57,750) at 12 months if patient maintains independent living status
- Quality penalties:
  - 15% repayment if hospital readmission occurs within 30 days of discharge
  - 10% reduction if recommended therapy minutes not achieved (minimum 45 minutes daily)
- Social care offset: Municipality contributes NOK 95,000 per patient avoiding long-term care placement
- Technology supplement: Additional NOK 28,500 per patient requiring advanced assistive devices
- Risk adjustment: Payment varied by  $\pm 25\%$  based on stroke severity (NIHSS score), age, and comorbidities

### **Duration:** 4 years with biennial outcome target recalibration **Special Provisions:**

- Comprehensive multidisciplinary assessment within 48 hours of admission
- Standardized rehabilitation protocols with minimum 3 hours daily therapy for first 3 weeks
- Advanced neurorehabilitation technologies including robotics and VR-based therapy
- Home modification assessment and implementation (up to NOK 75,000 per patient)
- Caregiver training program (24 hours structured education)
- Integrated psychological support for patients and families
- Telemedicine follow-up system with remote monitoring
- Community reintegration program including vocational rehabilitation

- Dedicated stroke coordinator (1:25 coordinator-to-patient ratio)
- Spasticity management protocol including botulinum toxin therapy when indicated