

Stroke Escalation Pathway for Patients Receiving IV Alteplase

Blood Pressure Management

Pre tPA bolus target: BP < 185/110

During infusion and post tPA target: BP < 180/105

Call MD if systolic BP drops below 90

1. BP checks q 15 mins x 2 hours and then q 30min x 6 hours and then hourly for 16 hours
2. If BP above target recheck in 5 mins. If repeat is above target escalate to Resus Resident and ED attending
3. Resus Resident will page the Stroke Team
4. ED and Stroke Team will meet at bedside and discuss plan of care
5. If unable to obtain reliable BP escalate as outlined above

IV Access Issues

1. All patients with tPA MUST have 2 good working IVs
2. If unable to maintain or obtain 2 IVs after two attempts escalate to Resus Resident, ED attending and Stroke team
3. Consider USGIV insertion early for patients with difficult access
4. ED and Stroke Team will huddle at bedside and discuss the best options for IV access

Other Issues Or Concerns That You May Have Regarding Care Of The Patient

1. Escalate to Resus Resident and Stroke Team request bedside huddle to address concerns and/or issues and develop a plan.
- **Remember – do not hesitate or delay escalation. Early escalation is always the best****

Issues Reaching Stroke Team

1. If page to Stroke team is unanswered activate a Stroke Code on 33333
2. If you feel that you are not getting the support or response that you need to safely care for your patient escalate to ED nursing leadership