

Transient Ischemic Attack



RISHACADEMY

educate yourself to empower yourself

www.rishacademy.com

Transient ischemic attack

- This is an ischaemic (usually embolic) neurological event with symptoms lasting <24h (often much shorter).
- Without intervention, more than 1 in 12 patients will go on to have a stroke within a week, so prompt management is imperative.



Investigations

- FBC
- ESR
- Urea & Electrolytes
- Glucose
- Lipids
- CXR
- ECG
- carotid Doppler ± angiography
- CT or diffusion-weighted MRI
- echo cardiogram.



Management of TIA

- *Control cardio vascular risk factors:* Optimize:BP (cautiously lower; aim for <140/85mmHg,); hyperlipidaemia ; Diabetes ; help to stop smoking .
- *Antiplatelet drugs:* As with stroke, give aspirin 300mg OD for 2wks, then switch to clopidogrel 75mg OD. If this is contraindicated or not tolerated, give aspirin 75mg OD combined with slow-release dipyridamole.



Management of TIA

- *Anticoagulation indications:* Cardiac source of emboli.
- *Carotid endarterectomy:* Perform within 2wks of first presentation if 70–99% stenosis and operative risk is acceptable.



Act FAST

- Several public health measures have aimed to increase awareness of stroke and the seriousness of the condition: the re-labelling of stroke as a 'brain attack,' and via the graphic mass media **FAST** campaign
 1. Facial asymmetry
 2. Arm/leg weakness
 3. Speech difficulty
 4. Time to call for an ambulance.



Prognosis after a stroke

- **Prognosis** *Overall mortality: 60 000/yr; UK 20% at 1 month, then 10%/yr.*
- *Full recovery: $\leq 40\%$.*
- Drowsiness \approx poor prognosis
- Avoid pressure ulcers



Download More Medical Notes at

RISHACADEMY

educate yourself to empower yourself

www.rishacademy.com