

Order set: EXCLUSION CRITERIA FOR ALTEPLASE (TPA) THROMBOLYTIC THERAPY Saskatchewan Acute Stroke Pathway Protocols	Addressograph	
	YES	NO
*** National Institute of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) see over ***		
Onset of symptoms or the "Last Seen Normal" is greater than 4.5 hours		
CT evidence of cerebral hemorrhage		
Clinical presentation consistent with subarachnoid hemorrhage even if CT scan normal		
Blood pressure greater than 185/110 and not treatable		
Blood Glucose less than 2.7 mmol/L or greater than 22.2 mmol/L		
Significant head trauma, brain surgery or spinal surgery within 3 months		
History of intracranial hemorrhage (in previous six months)		
Recent minor stroke (1 month) or moderate to severe stroke (3 months)		
Active internal, gastrointestinal or urinary bleeding within 21 days		
Arterial puncture at a non-compressible site in previous 7 days		
Platelet count less than 100 x 10 ⁹ /L		
IV Heparin received within 48 hours, resulting in an abnormally elevated PTT greater than 40 seconds		
Low Molecular Weight Heparin at full anticoagulant levels		
Warfarin use with INR greater than 1.7		
Novel oral anticoagulants (rivaroxiban, dabigatran, apixaban) taken within previous 24 hours		
Rapidly improving neurological signs or NIHSS less than 4		
History of arteriovenous malformation (AVM) or aneurysm		
Profound stroke with obtundation, fixed eye deviation and complete hemiplegia or NIHSS greater than 24		
Acute cerebral infarct with ASPECT score less than or equal to 5		
Recent large myocardial infarction or pericarditis within 3 months		
Recent major surgery or trauma (cardiac, thoracic, abdominal, orthopaedic) within 14 days		
History of bleeding diathesis or liver failure		
Seizure at onset of stroke with residual postictal neurological deficits		
Pregnancy		
Age less than 18 years		
Summary Eligibility Assessment:	YES	NO
All answers must be checked "YES"		
1. The patient meets inclusion criteria: acute ischemic stroke symptom and symptom onset less than 4.5 hours		
2. The patient does not have any of the absolute exclusion criteria		
3. The patient may have one or more of the relative contraindications, but potential benefits of alteplase exceeds potential risks		
Treatment Decision:	YES	NO
Alteplase (tPA) to be given (YES or NO)		
_____ PRACTITIONER PRINTED NAME	_____ PRACTITIONER SIGNATURE	_____ DATE/TIME

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National Institute of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS)					
1a. Level of Consciousness (LOC)	0 1 2 3	Alert Drowsy Stuporous Comatose	9. Limb Ataxia	0 1 2	Absent (or in coma) Present in 1 limb Present in 2 or more limbs
1b. LOC Questions	0 1 2	Answers both questions correctly Answers one question correctly Answers neither question correctly	10. Sensory	0 1 2	Normal Partial loss Dense loss (or in coma)
1c. LOC Commands	0 1 2	Performs both tasks correctly Performs one task correctly Performs neither task correctly	11. Best Language	0 1 2 3	No dysphasia Mild Severe dysphasia Mute
2. Best Gaze	0 1 2	Normal Partial gaze palsy Forced deviation	12. Dysarthria	0 1 2	Normal articulation Mild – moderate dysarthria Unintelligible or worse
3. Visual Fields	0 1 2 3	No visual loss (or in coma) Partial hemianopia Complete hemianopia Bilateral Hemianopia	13. Neglect	0 1 2	No neglect (or in coma) Partial neglect Complete neglect
4. Facial Palsy	0 1 2 3	Normal Minor Partial Complete	NIHSS Total Score		
5. Best Motor RIGHT ARM	0 1 2 3 4	No drift Drift Some effort against gravity No effort against gravity No movement	NIHSS Scoring for Aphasic and Comatose Patients: 1b) LOC Questions: Aphasic and Stuporous patients unable to state age or month = 2 2. Best Gaze: Conjugate gaze deviation overcome by voluntary or reflex movement = 1 Isolated eye nerve palsy = 1 3. Visual Fields: Visual field clear cut asymmetry = 1, Total Blindness = 2 4. Facial Palsy: Facial Asymmetry can be assessed in response to noxious stimuli 5 - 8. Motor Testing: Motor Testing can be pantomimed for aphasic patients. 9. Limb Ataxia: If cannot be demonstrated = 0 10. Sensory: Asymmetry = 1, Bilateral sensory loss = 2, Patient in coma and with no response to pain = 2 11. Best Language: Patient in coma = 3 12. Dysarthria: Scored only if audible speech is heard 13. Neglect: Present if obviously more than blindness or sensory loss		
6. Best Motor LEFT ARM	0 1 2 3 4	No drift Drift Some effort against gravity No effort against gravity No movement			
7. Best Motor RIGHT LEG	0 1 2 3 4	No drift Drift Some effort against gravity No effort against gravity No movement			
8. Best Motor LEFT LEG	0 1 2 3 4	No drift Drift Some effort against gravity No effort against gravity No movement			