University Hospitals Case Medical Center delivers stroke clot-buster better than national average in new benchmark report

Ohio Department of Health Coverdell Stroke Program presents data on UH performance

CLEVELAND -- A new benchmark report from the Ohio Department of Health Coverdell Stroke Program shows that University Hospitals Case Medical Center is 12.4 percent better than the national average in administering the clot-busting drug t-PA within 60 minutes or less of the patient’s arrival at the emergency department (“door-to-needle time”) and 15.5 percent ahead of Ohio hospitals participating in the report.

The clot-buster t-PA is intravenous tissue-type plasminogen activator, which is the only FDA approved drug for dissolving the blockage at the root of ischemic strokes. The benefits of t-PA in acute ischemic stroke are time dependent, and guidelines call for it to be administered within 60 minutes of a patient arriving at the emergency department.

Other highlights of the report include that the medical center is 16.5 percent ahead of the Ohio average in scheduling primary care provider follow-up appointments and nearly 35 percent ahead of the Ohio average in scheduling follow-up appointments with neurologists – both prior to being discharged home. According to the report, follow-up care with a primary care provider can facilitate recovery from stroke.

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In addition UH Case Medical Center exceeded the national average in eight of ten quality measures. “One American dies from stroke every four minutes and it is a leading cause of serious long-term disability,” said Dr. Sila. “We continually strive to make improvements in our rapid response to strokes at UH Case Medical Center and through our regional stroke network at our community hospitals.”

“The Coverdell program is a data-driven quality improvement program demonstrating that we are delivering the right care at the right time for our patients and it gives us a roadmap for future developments,” said Dr. Sila. “Research shows that getting treated at a primary stroke center staffed by medical experts using the latest technologies gives a patient the best chance for a favorable outcome and fuller recovery,” she said.

**NEW PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

UH Systems Stroke Program Initiative focuses on admitting low-risk ICH patients to UH Ahuja, based on data collected at UHCMC and presented at the American Stroke Association International Stroke Conference in February by Dr. Oladi Bentho, UH Department of Neurology and Dr. Wei Xiong, UH Department of Neurology.
INAUGURAL ROBERT J. MACIUNAS LECTURE

The Inaugural Robert J. Maciunas Lecture was held on Wednesday, May 13th to honor the life and career of Dr. Maciunas who was the Director of the Gamma Knife Center, the Center for Image-Guided Neurosurgery and served as Vice Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery at University Hospitals Case Medical Center.

He was well known for his many advances in the field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery, pioneering several techniques for brain surgery, particularly for helping patients with Tourette syndrome.

Douglas Kondziolka, M.D., MSc, Professor and Director of the Center for Advanced Radiosurgery at NYU Langone Medical Center and Vice Chair of Clinical Research at New York University School of Medicine, was the invited speaker and gave a presentation entitled, “If not us, then who.” Dr. Maciunas’ wife, Ann Failinger, and his two sons Joseph and Nicholas were in attendance.

(L to R) Dr. Warren Selman, Nicholas Maciunas, Dr. Ann Failinger, Joseph Maciunas, and Dr. Douglas Kondziolka
DEGREES AND PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS EARNED

Cathy Sila, MD, UH Department of Neurology received an Advancing Manager Certificate, from the Weatherhead School of Management

Cathy Sila, MD, UH Department of Neurology, - Vascular Neurology Board Recertification

RESEARCH TRIALS AND STUDIES

Protocol Synopsis DAWN™ Trial - DWI or CTP Assessment with Clinical Mismatch in the Triage of Wake Up and Late Presenting Strokes Undergoing Neurointervention

Primary Objective: To evaluate the hypothesis that Trevo thrombectomy plus medical management leads to superior clinical outcomes at 90 days as compared to medical management alone in appropriately selected subjects experiencing an acute ischemic stroke when treatment is initiated within 6-24 hours after last seen well.

Study Design: Prospective, randomized, multi-center, Phase II/III (feasibility/pivotal), adaptive, population enrichment, blinded endpoint, controlled trial. Subjects will be randomized 1:1 to Trevo thrombectomy plus medical management or medical management alone. Stratification will occur by: Clinical Imaging Mismatch (CIM) subgroup (see Imaging Inclusion Criteria), Time Last Seen Well (TLSW) ≥ 6 to <12 hours vs. >12 to ≤ 24 hours, and Baseline Occlusion Location (ICA vs. M1).

Planned Number of Subjects: A maximum of 500 subjects is planned to be enrolled; 250 in the Treatment arm and 250 in the Control arm. The minimum sample size is 150 subjects. We expect to enroll 10 patients at UHCMC

Primary Endpoint: Difference between the average weighted modified Rankin Scale score at 90 days between the active and control groups.

Study Duration: Enrollment: approximately 36 months; Subject participation: 90 days (±14)

For General inclusion criteria information, please contact the Coordinator Val Cwiklinski RN (pager 35588) or the Principal Investigator Dr. Cathy Sila for more information. Or go to ClinicalTrials.gov and search Trevo and Medical Management.

RESEARCH TRIALS AND STUDIES contd.

Study of Deferoxamine Mesylate in Intracerebral Hemorrhage (iDEF). This is a prospective, multi-center, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, phase-II clinical trial. Subjects will be randomized to either deferoxamine mesylate (DFO) at 32 mg/kg/day (up to a maximum daily dose of 6000 mg/day), or saline placebo, given by IV infusion for 3 consecutive days. Treatment will be initiated within 24 hours after ICH symptom onset. Randomization will control baseline imbalances associated with baseline ICH score, ICH onset-to-treatment time (OTT), ICH volume, baseline NIHSS score, and warfarin use. All subjects will be followed for 6 months and will receive standard of care therapy while participating in the study.

Throughout the study, we will continue to assess the safety of DFO. At the conclusion of the study, the proportion of DFO-treated subjects with a good clinical outcome at 3 months (defined as modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score of 0-2) will be compared to the placebo proportion in a futility analysis to determine if it is futile to move DFO forward to Phase III efficacy evaluation.

Michael DeGeorgia is the PI of the study. Research nurses are Dave Korosec, RN, (cell phone 440-477-4971) and Valerie Cwiklinski, RN, (cell phone 440-220-0168 or pager #35588).

CLINICAL TRIALS

NRG BN002: Phase I Study of Ipilimumab, Nivolumab, and the Combination in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma, an NCI-funded multicenter trial co-Chaired by Dr. Andrew Sloan, was approved by CTEP, the FDA and the NIH Central IRB and will open at 10 sites in July-August, 2015.
UH GEauga MEDICAL CENTER
RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE 2015
AMERICA’S BEST STROKE CENTERS

UH Geauga Medical Center earned the Women’s Choice Award for American’s Best Stroke Centers. This distinction is the first of its kind in the nation and is awarded to hospitals that carry the certification of an Advanced Primary Stroke Center or Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center by the Joint Commission combined with achieving above average patient recommendation scores.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Shivam Om Mittal, MD participated in presenting two poster presentations at the 19th Movement Disorder Society International Congress on June 17th-June 18th.

- Shivam Om Mittal, Duarte G Machado. Wide spectrum of clinical presentation of ataxia with ocularmotor apraxia type II.

- Shivam Om Mittal, Ashish Ranpura, Arash Salarhdimi, Bahman Jabbari. Hand stereotypies in Wilson's disease

Jun Park, MD, Asim Shahid, MD, UH Department of Pediatric Epilepsy, Jonathan Miller, MD, UH Department of Neurosurgery and Han Lüders, MD, UH Department of Neurology presented at the 8th International Epilepsy Colloquium in Grenoble, France on June 17, 2015. Topic: "Infant with TSC 1 Mutation and focal status epilepticus treated with Leukotomy at 3 months of age."

Andrew Sloan, MD, UH Department of Neurological Surgery, lectured on "Cancer Related Cord Compression" to UHMG and Seidman Cancer Center Clinicians on May 13, 2015.

Andrew Sloan, MD, UH Department of Neurological Surgery, was the invited Oral Platform presenter on Brain Tumors: What the Neurosurgeon Wants at the International Society for MRI in Medicine, in Toronto, CA, May 31, 2015.

Andrew Sloan, MD, UH Department of Neurological Surgery was the invited Oral Platform presenter on Laser Interstitial Thermotherapy (LITT) vs. Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS). Complementary rather than Competing Technologies at the International Gamma Knife Meeting.

Andrew Sloan, MD, UH Department of Neurological Surgery presented on Laser Interstitial Thermotherapy for the treatment of newly diagnosed GBM at the AANS Tumor Satellite Symposium, in Washington, DC, May 2015.

Andrew Sloan, MD, presented on MRI Fingerprinting for Diagnosis of Malignant Glioma and Assessment of Treatment Response at the AANS Tumor Satellite Symposium, in Washington, DC, May 2015.

Andrew Sloan, MD, D. Bondy, P. Harris and A. Kerstetter-Fogle presented on The Role of the Robo-Slit family of Genes in GBM Invasion at the AANS Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, May 2015 (Oral)

Andrew Sloan, MD, UH Department of Neurological Surgery presented on The Role of the Neurosurgeon in Brain Tumor Clinical Trials at the AANS Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, May 2015.
SAVE THE DATE - Mark your calendars!

2015 CLEVELAND HYDROCEPHALUS ASSOCIATION WALK
The UH Neurological Institute and Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital are proud to be a Gold sponsor of the 2015 Cleveland Hydrocephalus Association WALK on Sunday, August 30. We will be creating a team for the walk and would be thrilled if you could join us to show support for our patients with hydrocephalus. If you are interested in walking with us, please e-mail Bri Martinez at Brianna.Martinez@UHhospitals.org to let her know of your interest and for details on registering for the walk. We will be ordering team t-shirts, price TBD, so please also include your t-shirt size in the email.

7th ANNUAL PARKINSON DISEASE BOOT CAMP
Saturday, September 19, 2015
John S. Knight Center
77 East Mill Street, Akron, OH
For more information contact Barbara Bryson at Barbara.bryson@uhhospitals.org

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S CLEVELAND AREA CHAPTER
September 13, 2015 at the Lake Farm Park, Kirtland, OH http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2015/OH-ClevelandArea?fr_id=7708&pg=entry
September 27, 2015 at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Cleveland, OH http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2015/OH-ClevelandArea?fr_id=7707&pg=entry
For more information contact Katie Mang at kmang@alz.org.

2015 CLEVELAND HEART AND STROKE WALK
Saturday, September 26, 2015 – The NI is looking for someone to volunteer to serve as the team captain to organize a NI group to participate in this year’s walk. If you are interested, please contact Julie Fussner or Barbara Bryson as soon as possible. Julie.Fussner@uhhospitals.org or Barbara.Bryson@uhhospitals.org

4TH ANNUAL DAN AND LINDA ROCKER SILVERBERG HEAL THE HEALER SYMPOSIUM
Friday, October 16, 2015 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
700 Beta Banquet & Conference Center
700 Beta Drive, Mayfield Village, OH 44143

To register for the symposium, call 216 983-1239 – More information to come!
EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES GRAND ROUNDS SCHEDULE

**Epilepsy Grand Rounds** – Frohring Auditorium – CANCELLED FOR THE SUMMER

**Neurology Grand Rounds** Kulas Auditorium 8 am – CANCELLED FOR THE SUMMER

**Neuromuscular Grand Rounds** – Lerner Tower 2nd Fl., Room 2060 9:30 am - CANCELLED FOR THE SUMMER

**Pediatric Epilepsy Grand Rounds** – RBC 8th Floor Conference Room 11:00 am

Every 4th Monday of the month

Topic:  Case Management

**Neurosurgical Clinical Conference** – Hanna House 5th Floor, Room 537 7:15 am

TBA

If you have any questions regarding department Grand Rounds schedule, please contact:

Lois Hengenius, Neurosurgery Clinical Conference, 216 844-3472

Angela Javorsky, Epilepsy Grand Rounds, 216 844-1764

Roberta Phelps, Neuromuscular Grand Rounds, 216 844-4854

Kim Puskus, Neurology Grand Rounds, 844-3194

Angel Warner, Pediatric Epilepsy Course 216-286-6562

Carlee Seelbach, Connor Integrative Medicine Network 216-593-5533

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DAISY AWARD – JOE FAULKNER, RN, NSU

Joe Faulkner RN, NSU received the Daisy Award.  DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System. In 1999 the Foundation was formed by the family of J. Patrick Barnes, who at age 33 died of complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP). In Patrick's memory his family started The DAISY Program to recognize the skillful and amazingly compassionate care he received from his nurses. Congratulations Joe!
PUBLICATIONS


NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT & FELLOWS GRADUATIONS

Yin Hu, MD; Warren Selman, MD; Jennifer Jochum; Sunil Manjila, MD; Osmond Wu, MD; and Sree N. Sreenath, Ph.D. (Director, Case Complex Systems Biology)

Department of Neurosurgery’s 2015 Resident’s Dinner
NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT & FELLOWS GRADUATIONS

Mickey Smith, MD; Kaine Onwuzulike, MD and Alan Cohen, MD

Dr. and Mrs. Mel Shaftron and Dr. Hart.

Sunil Manjila, MD and Nicholas Bambakidis, MD

Neurology PGY2 Residents presented The Joseph M. Foley Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Michael Devereaux
NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT & FELLOWS GRADUATIONS

2015 Department of Neurology Residents Graduation

Neurology PGY3 Residents presented The Dennis M. Landis Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Alan Lerner

Neurology PGY4 Residents presented The Robert B. Daroff Teaching Excellence Award to Dr. Cathy Sila
NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY RESIDENT & FELLOWS GRADUATIONS

Kunal Kumar, MD; Barbara Shapiro, MD and Oladi Bentho, MD

Oladi Bentho, MD; Guadalupe Fernandez-Baca Vaca, MD; Manaf Zawahreh, MD and Sikawat Thanaviratananich, MD

Saba Saeed, MD; Guadalupe Fernandez-Baca Vaca, MD and Kunal Kumar, MD
May is stroke awareness month. This issue is so important especially when you consider it is the third leading cause of death in the United States. Members of the Neurological Institute administered 325 screenings at CMC and 715 throughout the whole system.
In an effort to keep the newsletter 10 pages or less, we are requesting that you only submit four of your top publications per month beginning the month of July, 2015.