

# STROKE ALERT

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Time At Patient Side: \_\_\_\_\_ (24 hr) EMS Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  BLS  ALS Age: \_\_\_  M  F  
 Pt Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Time HOSPITAL Called: \_\_\_\_\_ (24 hr) Stroke Level:  1  2  
 Event Witness Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Closest Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Level 1 (Code RED)** Last Seen Normal  $\leq 4.5$  hrs  
**POTENTIAL for tPA**

**Level 2** Last Seen Normal  $> 4.5$  hrs.  
**POTENTIAL for INTERVENTION**

**F.A.S.T. Exam** (Cincinnati Pre-hospital Stroke Scale)<sup>1</sup>  Check box if any are **ABNORMAL** & check GLUCOSE.

**Face:** Have patient smile while showing teeth. **ABNORMAL:** Facial **droop** or asymmetry. **DROOP**

**Arm:** Have patient closes eyes and holds arms out with palms up for 10 seconds.  
**ABNORMAL:** One arm **drifts** down or is unable to raise as high. **DRIFT**

**Speech:** Patient repeats, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" (or similar familiar phrase).  
**ABNORMAL:** Words are **slurred**, inappropriate, unintelligible, or there is no speech. **SLURR**

**Time** "Last Seen Normal" (or baseline): \_\_\_\_\_ (24 hr) Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_.

**IMPORTANT:** With any **ABNORMAL** sign, check **GLUCOSE** prior to activating Stroke Alert.

**Glucose:** \_\_\_\_\_ mg/dL (Treat if less than 50 and **reassess** prior to activating Stroke Alert)

## STROKE IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY. LIMIT ON SCENE TIME TO 15 MINUTES

Complete the following fields if time permits (preferably *en route*).

**"Time is Brain!"**

Upon **ARRIVAL**, report all known or *suspected* conditions to Emergency Department personnel.

**tPA Candidate Screen** - Possible tPA exclusions.

- Known bleeding disorder       Active internal bleeding       Brain cancer, tumor, or AVM (malformation)  
 Seizure at onset       History of brain hemorrhage       Anticoagulant use (Coumadin, Lovenox, Pradaxa, Xeralto, Eliquis, etc)

**Medical History**

- Hypertension       A-Fib/Flutter       High Cholesterol       Diabetes       CAD or MI       Obesity       PVD  
 Smoker       Heart Failure       Prior Stroke or TIA       Residual Stroke Deficit       Dementia

**Stroke Mimics**

- HyperGlycemia** (>400 mg/dL)       **Seizure history** (or conversion disorder)       **Migraine history** (esp. complex migraines)       **Brain tumor**       **Sepsis** (recent or suspected infection?)

1. Interpretation: If **any** 1 of these 3 signs is abnormal, the probability of a stroke is 72%. Modified from Kothari RU, Pancioli A, Liu T, Brott T, Broderick J. Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale: reproducibility and validity. Ann Emerg Med. 1999;33:373-378. With permission from Elsevier.