



Cumbria and Lancashire Telestroke Network

02/09/2011

Briefing for Switchboard - NCUHT

The Cumbria and Lancashire Out of Hours Telestroke Service is going live on Wednesday 27th July.

This will now mean that Thrombolysis for Acute Ischaemic Stroke can be offered to suitable patients 24/7 rather than the previous 9 to 5, Monday to Friday service. Thrombolysis is the only effective treatment for patients who have had just suffered a stroke but to be effective has to be delivered within a short time period after the initial symptoms. Current advice is this can be delivered within 4.5 hours after symptom onset.

A rota of 16 Stroke Consultants from the six participating Trusts – Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Southport and Ormskirk Foundation Trust, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust and North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust, will provide out of hours clinical advice from their homes to eight hospital sites in Cumbria and Lancashire. This advice will be via a laptop in the clinician's home to a Telecart that will be based at the patient's bedside in A/E or in some cases the stroke ward.

The pathway for the out of hours service will involve the A/E department at Carlisle or Whitehaven contacting switchboard and asking the telephonist to contact the Consultant on the rota.

A rota for the week will be supplied every Monday morning. This will include the contact numbers of the Consultants who will provide this service. If there are any last minute changes to the rota an updated version will be supplied on the day of the change.

Please contact _____ on _____ or _____ if you have any queries on the rota or this briefing.