



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Bureau for Public Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

Ayne Amjad, MD, MPH
Commissioner & State Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: West Virginia EMS Official Agency Representative
West Virginia EMS Agency Training Officers
West Virginia EMS Prehospital Providers
Medical Command Centers

FROM: Vicki L. Hildreth, Interim Director
Office of Emergency Medical Services *Vicki L. Hildreth*

DATE: July 22, 2020

RE: **Mandatory Usage of the FAST-ED for Stroke/TIA Patients to Determine Stroke Severity Score**

The prehospital goal for Stroke/TIA patients is to recognize stroke symptoms, determine the severity of the stroke using a stroke severity screening tool and quickly notify the Medical Command Centers and receiving hospital in order to mobilize important time-sensitive intervention.

West Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (WVOEMS) treatment protocols: Paramedic 4602; AEMT 5602; ACT T602 and EMT 6602 addresses the transfer of potential stroke patients directly to a Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC) or a Thrombectomy-capable Center through the assistance of Medical Command Centers.

Treatment protocols instruct prehospital providers that a prehospital stroke severity score is to be performed. This can only be determined by prehospital providers utilizing the Fast-ED application and reporting this score to the Medical Command Centers. Prehospital providers will be provided instructions for the most appropriate facility for transport. The FAST-ED free mobile application is available under the JoinTriage application for Apple iOS and Android devices. When providers sign in, simply select the FAST-ED, and the specific instructions are in each of the specific protocols. Please refer to treatment protocols addressing this requirement.

Please ensure that all prehospital providers are utilizing the FAST-ED as part of their assessment for all possible stroke/TIA patients. Medical Command Centers will require this score during the prehospital providers report.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

cc: Michael R. Mills, DO, FACEP, State Medical Director, WV Office of EMS