



# Georgia Paul Coverdell Acute Stroke Registry

## Newsletter

### Hospital Achievements

At the time of the October newsletter mailing, hospitals were asked to send in any recent recognition they wanted us to highlight in upcoming newsletters. Here are some of the responses we'd like to share.

St. Mary's Health Care System in Athens, is proud to announce they received JCAHO Stroke Center recertification in September and received excellents in ALL categories. If you would like more information on JCAHO Stroke Center recertification, feel free to contact: Cheryl Holderfield MSN, APRN, CNS, CCRN, CNRN the director of Neuroscience Critical Care at: [cholderfield@stmarysathens.org](mailto:cholderfield@stmarysathens.org)

On Saturday morning, October 21<sup>st</sup>, Northside Hospital in Atlanta had a community stroke risk assessment day. Stroke screening included blood glucose and cholesterol testing, blood pressure, body mass index, and carotid ultrasound. Each attendee pre-registered by phone. Attendees met with a physician to discuss their results, followed by a risk

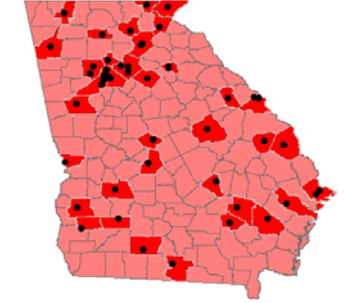
assessment with another healthcare professional. Information, magnets, and test results were given to each person to take with them. Refreshments were provided, as well as free parking.

Screening was staffed by volunteers from the stroke team, rehabilitation services, and employees from the Northside Corporate screening program. Neurologists were available to answer questions. 73 people were screened in 3 hours, and 50 more tried to register but unfortunately, the spots were filled! The day was a great success, thanks to the passion and generosity of those who spent their Saturday morning helping the community to prevent stroke. In addition, local news stations captured the morning.

Not only is this a wonderful community service but this can also serve to be a valuable marketing strategy for your hospital. If you have any questions about Northside's stroke screening, please call: Karen Seagraves RNBC, BSN, MPH- the Stroke Team Coordinator at Northside Hospital in Atlanta at 404-851-8143 or their hospital's stroke information line at 404-845-5265.

## December 2006

Coverdell Facility Locations, Year 1 & 2



To date we have over 4600 charts abstracted from our year one Coverdell hospitals and GMCF is working with all of you to obtain discharge lists. We are continuing to re-abstract charts for the purpose of inter-rater reliability assessment.

If you have anything you'd like included in an upcoming newsletter or have achieved recent recognition in the area of stroke, contact: Kerrie Krompf at ([kkrompf@emory.edu](mailto:kkrompf@emory.edu)) or 404-616-8741

**Dysphagia Screening**-It has come to our attention that some hospitals are answering the dysphagia screening question incorrectly. Please be sure to enter a "YES" response only if the patient received the dysphagia screening "prior to any oral intake" which includes medications.

## Coverdell Partners:

Georgia Division of Public Health (DPH)

Emory University School of Medicine

Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF)

American Stroke Association (ASA)

Georgia Hospital Association (GHA)

- To date: there are 52 hospitals in the GA Coverdell Stroke Registry
- Our website has been updated to reflect all 52 hospitals

All of us at Coverdell wish you and your families a healthy and happy holiday season

## Coverdell Highlights

### November Conference Call

Thank you to Tabitha Rautenstrauch, one of our QI consultants for being our guest speaker on the November 6<sup>th</sup> conference call. In addition, we would like to thank Debbie Camp (St. Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta), Cheryl Holderfield (St. Mary's Healthcare system) and Susan Gaunt (Gwinnett Health System) for joining Tabitha and adding pearls of wisdom, based on their hospital's experiences.

### December Conference Call

Latasha Lewis from Dekalb-Hilandale, a 100 bed facility, and Pam Garland, Susan Gaunt, Serena King, Veta Grover, Linda Vick, and Susan Bird from Gwinnett Medical Center, a 390 bed facility, discussed how clinical and quality improvement staff can work

together to improve stroke care. Thanks to all for a wonderful presentation.

If you'd like to contact any of the speakers from the past presentations let us know and we'll be more than happy to give you their contact information. If you need any of the teleconference PowerPoint presentations, please contact Kerrie Krompf at [kkrompf@emory.edu](mailto:kkrompf@emory.edu) or 404-616-8741.

Our website has been updated to reflect all 52 hospitals. The best way to access the website is to Google (Georgia Coverdell Stroke Registry). The first link that appears will take you to our site.

**The 2007 International Stroke Conference will be in San Francisco from February 7 - 9. For more information go to: [strokeconference.americanheart.org](http://strokeconference.americanheart.org)**

## Coverdell Q-Tip – (Quality Tip)-our newest section

### Article Review-

Some Coverdell Hospitals, such as Northeast Georgia Medical Center, take the opportunity to peruse a stroke article on current research, during their monthly interdisciplinary stroke meetings. This is an excellent way for all team members to remain up to date regarding

the latest trends and how they might be incorporated into their system.

The selected article is emailed to the team prior to the meeting and various team members take responsibility to facilitate the discussion on a monthly basis.

Thank you to Northeast Georgia Medical Center for the Q-Tip.