

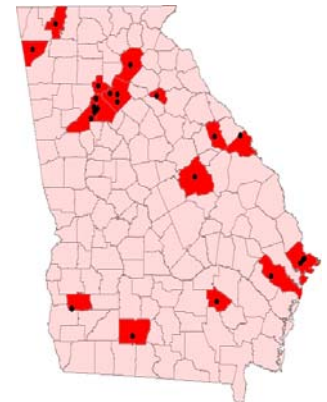


Georgia Paul Coverdell Acute Stroke Registry

Monthly Update May, 2006

The Coverdell Stroke Registry's steering committee is proud to announce that each facility is making great progress in the quality of stroke care and would like to prompt and promote hospitals in their attempt to continue this improvement.

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association and the partners of the Georgia Coverdell Stroke Registry are hosting a "Celebration of Success and Pursuit of Clinical Excellence Workshop" in Atlanta on June 6, 2006, from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. This workshop will allow Coverdell facilities to present information on the "Best Practice" processes that have aided in their journey to achieving optimum stroke care. The workshop will involve storyboard displays and presentations to demonstrate the different methods of addressing the registry's performance measures.



Please refer any questions, concerns, or ideas about the Coverdell Stroke Registry to Kerrie Krompf (kkrompf@emory.edu) and she will present the information to the steering committee.

Invitations and information regarding participation and the location of the workshop is available. All questions and concerns should be directed to the project manager, Kerrie Krompf.

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To date, all Coverdell facilities have submitted their hospital inventory and participation survey. If your facility submitted two surveys and the results differ, Cortelius Wright will contact you to receive clarification.

Stroke education material is available to assist with educating the residents of Georgia and physicians and nurses that are involved with stroke care. Education material will be distributed by request only. If your facility would like to receive education materials please contact the project manager, Kerrie Krompf.

JCAHO Primary Stroke Certification from a MD's Perspective

Quick Notes:

- 15 of the 24 hospitals were on May's conference call.
- The "Celebration of Success and Pursuit of Clinical Excellence Workshop" will involve methods used for "Best Practices."
- Registration for the Celebration of Success and Pursuit of Clinical Excellence Workshop is FREE.
- Becoming a Primary Stroke Center is a possibility for all facilities. Please contact the Coverdell steering committee for assistance.

May's monthly hospital conference call focused attention on the establishment of Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organization's Stroke Certification within Georgia's facilities. To become a JCAHO certified or primary stroke care facility, hospitals must demonstrate their compliance with consensus-based national standards; effective use of primary stroke center recommendations and clinical practice guidelines to manage and optimize care; and performance measurement and improvement activities being practiced. These certifications are offered for one year to hospitals that successfully demonstrate compliance with all performance items.

Dr. Michael Frankel (Chief of Neurology at Grady Memorial Hospital and the Stroke Director at Emory University School of Medicine) gave an overview of JCAHO Primary Stroke Certification from an MD's

perspective. Dr. Frankel's presentation was accompanied by two representatives (M.J. Hampel, Senior Associate Director of Disease Specific Care Certification and Elvira Ryan, Associate Project Director) from JCAHO. Elvira Ryan was instrumental in the development and pilot testing of JCAHO's standardized measure set for primary stroke centers. The representatives offered valuable information regarding obtaining the certification and answered questions about the certification process

JCAHO Stroke Certification can be obtained by any facility regardless of size. Moving towards more innovative approaches to address stroke care should be a goal of each Coverdell facility. Promoting JCAHO Certification can enhance the overall stroke care throughout the State of Georgia.