

St Helier TIA Pathway

Purpose of Pathway
All High Risk TIAs need to be assessed, investigated, started on secondary prevention and where applicable referred to Vascular Surgeons within 24 hours of presentation to medical services

Patient has neurological symptoms suggestive of TIA*

*If patient has neurological symptoms still present at assessment stroke is likely diagnosis. They need immediate transfer to HASU at St George's Hospital

*TIA unlikely:
Confusion (beware dysphasia)
Loss of memory
Isolated vertigo
Faintness
Syncope

- ADMIT:**
- Strokes (to HASU)
 - TIA patients on warfarin (need urgent scan at St Helier)
 - TIA and medically unstable (St Helier)
 - Clinically frail high risk patients unlikely to be able to return following day for urgent investigation (St Helier)

Assess ABCD2 Score
Give aspirin 300mg

ABCD2 Score	
Age > 60	+1
Blood Pressure > 140/90	+1
Clinical (score only one of weakness/speech)	
Unilateral weakness	+2
Speech disturbance only	+1
Duration	
>60 minutes	+2
10-59 minutes	+1
<10 minutes	+0
Diabetes	+1
Total	___/7

LOW RISK

- ABCD2 Score ≤ 3
- Symptoms > 1/52 ago
- Visual symptoms

- To be seen and investigated within 1 week of first medical contact
- Fax referral to the TIA clinic on 020 8296 2421 using TIA referral form**
 - Advise not to drive
 - Ask patient to phone stroke secretary on 020 8296 2404 next working day for "low risk" appointment
 - Start aspirin & statin

HIGH RISK (if symptoms within 1/52)

- ABCD2 Score ≥ 4
- AF
- Crescendo TIAs (≥2 in a week)
- Known carotid stenosis >50%

To be seen, investigated and treated within 24 hours of presentation

Monday - Thursday
0900-1600 hours
Friday 0900-1200 hours

- Refer directly to **Stroke team** on **TIA phone 07791 123499**
- for assessment within 24 hours of presentation
- Patient advised not to drive until assessed
- Fax **TIA referral to 020 8296 2421

Sunday-Thursday
1600-0900 hours

- Ask patient to telephone stroke secretary on **020 8296 2404** at 0900 to arrange assessment
- Fax **TIA referral to 020 8296 2421
- Patient advised not to drive until assessed
- Give patient copy of referral
- Don't discharge hoisted patients or those too frail to reattend next day

Friday 1200-Sunday 1600 hours
Bank Holidays

- **Patient must be assessed and treated within 24 hours of presentation to medical services**
- Arrange admission via medical registrar
- FBC, clotting, ESR, glucose, lipids, U&E, LFT all patients
- MRI brain (consultant/consultant referral) & Carotid Doppler available Saturday mornings-medical team to liaise with sonographer in room 3 for doppler
- CT brain (consultant/consultant referral) & Carotid Doppler available Sunday mornings-medical team to liaise with sonographer in room 3 for doppler
- If no haemorrhage on scan prescribe **antiplatelets** and **statin**
- If 50% or more symptomatic carotid stenosis on Doppler, do **NOT** discharge until stroke team assessed or d/w HASU
- Discharge **only** when all investigations complete and patient on treatment. Don't discharge hoisted patients or those too frail to reattend Monday
- Ask patient to telephone stroke secretary on 020 8296 2404 on next working day to arrange follow up appointment
- Patient to be given photocopy of completed TIA proforma **

**TIA referral form and TIA proforma available on intranet & trust website

Advise Patient not to drive for 1 month
Give aspirin 300mg & statin