Suspected Stroke

Identify signs and symptoms or possible stroke
Activate Emergency Response

Critical EMS assessments and actions
- ABCs/Oxygen
- Prehospital stroke assessment
- Establish time of symptom onset
- Triage to stroke center
- Alert hospital
- Check glucose

Immediate general assessment and stabilization
- Assess ABCs/Vital signs
- Oxygen
- IV Access and lab assessments
- Check glucose
- Activate stroke team
- Neurologic screening
- Emergent CT scan/MRI of brain
- Obtain 12-lead ECG

Immediate neurologic assessment by stroke team or designee
- Review patient history
- Establish time of symptom onset
- Neurologic examination

Does CT scan show hemorrhage?

Possible ischemic stroke
- Fibrinolytic therapy
- Fibrinolytic exclusions
- Repeat neuro exam
- Consult neurosurgeon or neurologist; consider transfer

Patient a candidate for fibrinolytic therapy?

Administer Aspirin

Review risks with family
- Give rtPA
- No anticoagulants or antiplatelet treatment for 24 hrs
- Begin stroke or hemorrhage pathway
- Admit to stroke unit or ICU

Begin post-rtPA stroke pathway
- Begin post-rtPA stroke pathway
- Monitor BP and neurological changes
- Emergent admission to stroke unit or ICU