

Paramedics Services

Acute Stroke Management

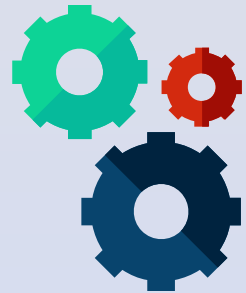
Paramedic Prompt Card

UPDATE

Los Angeles Motor Scale (LAMS)

This infographic supports the updated Basic Life Support Patient Care Standards v 3.3 from the Emergency Health Services Branch of the Ministry of Health, which includes changes to the Acute Stroke Bypass Protocol and will go into effect on January 11th, 2021.

Change to Prompt Card



Paramedics will **continue to use the FAST** (face, arms, speech, time) stroke screen as part of the protocol to identify patients that may be having a stroke. Following a positive screen for stroke, **the new secondary screen, called the Los Angeles Motor Scale (LAMS)** will assess for stroke severity. The LAMS result will provide additional information to:

- guide transport decisions
- treatment approach at the hospital

Travel & Transportation



The introduction of the LAMS tool will not impact already existing Bypass protocol. Patients **within 6.0 hours** of stroke symptom onset (last seen normal - LSN) will continue to be re-directed to the closest stroke centre.

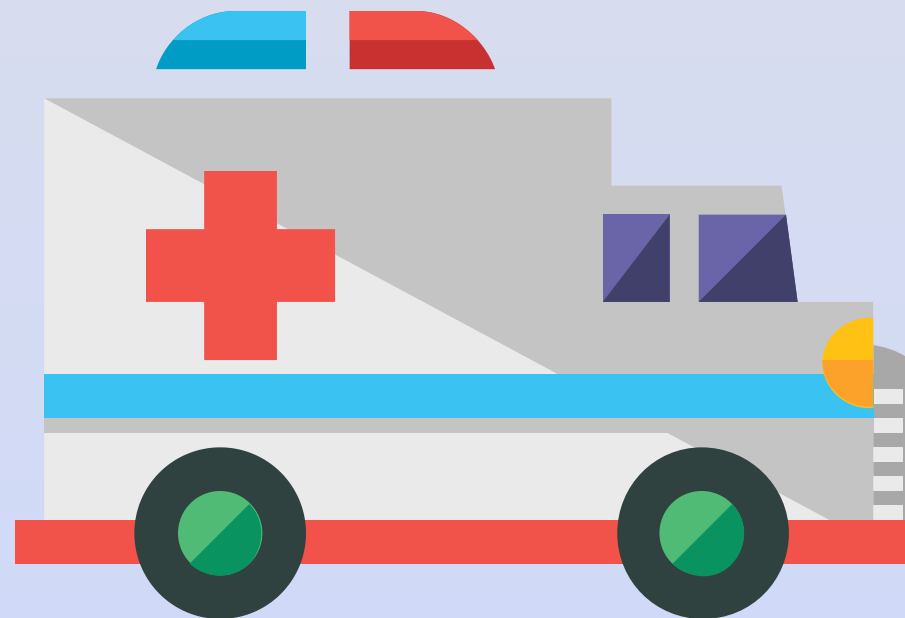
LAMS

The LAMS tool is a simple and validated assessment of stroke severity. It helps to identify who may be having a large vessel occlusion (LVO) stroke and be eligible for EVT.

A score of greater than or equal to 4 is considered 'positive' for an LVO stroke.

 FACIAL DROOP ABSENT: 0 PRESENT: 1	 ARM DRIFT ABSENT: 0 DRIFTS DOWN: 1 FALLS RAPIDLY: 2	 GRIP STRENGTH NORMAL: 0 WEAK GRIP: 1 NO GRIP: 2
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Photo Source: CorHealth Ontario



Pre-Notification Communication

While "en-route" to the receiving hospital, paramedics must notify the Emergency Department of the incoming suspected acute stroke patient, providing sufficient details such that a "Code Stroke" can be activated.

Information required includes:

- Where permitted, name, patient age
- Time of stroke onset or Last seen normal (LSN) time
- Presenting signs and symptoms of stroke, and stroke severity score (based on standardized screening tool)
- Current condition of patient and previous baseline function
- Latest vital signs (Blood pressure etc.)
- Current medications (anticoagulants),
- **LAMS Score**
- ETA
- Are you bypassing a hospital and which one(s)



Resources

- 1. CorHealth Endovascular Treatment (EVT). Resource Centre:**
www.corhealthontario.ca
- 2. CorHealth LAMS e-learning module:**
www.youtube.com/watch?v=EanfEzCHYc8&feature=youtu.be
- 3. Canadian Stroke Best Practice Recommendations:**
www.strokebestpractices.ca
- 4. 'Stroke Scales for EMS'** download this app on your Apple or Android device as an added resource

