

Nursing 102 Care of Adults  
Neurosensory: Stroke  
Clinical Preparation Week

**\*\* Due Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> by 0830 to Dr. Allen’s DropBox or bring to class at 0830 \*\***

1. Log on to ATI
  - a. Learn Tab
    - i. Engage Adult Medical Surgical RN
      1. Alterations in Neurologic Function
        - a. Review the “Stroke” lesson
        - b. Watch the “Stroke” Podcast
2. Complete the following:
  - a. After reviewing the stroke lesson:
    - i. What does FAST stand for? Expand upon each letter:

F: Face drooping – If a person tries to smile and one side of their face droops, feels numb or looks uneven, that’s an immediate warning sign.

A: Arm weakness – Someone experiencing a stroke may not be able to raise both arms, one arm may experience weakness or numbness and fall downward.

S: Speech difficulty – Slurred speech or incomprehensible speech is another telltale sign.

T: Time to call emergency services – Any of these signs should warrant an emergency and 911 should be called as soon as possible.

- ii. What is the treatment for stroke?

Hemorrhagic	Ischemic
If a patient is on blood thinners at the time of the stroke, reversal agents will be administered to restore coagulation and reduce severity of bleeding. Blood pressure management is vital, IV antihypertensives will typically be ordered to slow intracranial bleeding and preserve cerebral perfusion.	Treatments are done to restore blood flow by dissolving/removing clots while preventing new clots from forming. This is done by administering thrombolytic medications, such as alteplase (within 3 hours of onset of manifestations of stroke).

- iii. Have the NIH Stroke Scale available. Watch the following video and complete the NIH Stroke Scale: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yca-VJiHufU>.

1. 1a: Level of Consciousness: 2
2. 1b: LOC Questions: 2
3. 1c: LOC Commands: 0
4. Best Gaze: 1
5. Visual: 1
6. Facial Palsy: 1
7. Motor Arm: 2

8. Motor Leg: 2
9. Limb Ataxia: 1
10. Sensory: 2
11. Best Language: 0
12. Dysarthria: 0
13. Extinction and Inattention: 0
14. Total Score: 14

b. After watching the Podcast:

- i. What is the role of the rehab nurse when working with a stroke patient?

The rehab nurses help educate patients on their therapies and interventions. For example, if a patient is unable to attend occupational therapy every day, the nurse can help educate the patient on what they should practice on off-days. They can also help communicate information to the family. Rehab nurses also manage pain through assessments and advocacy.

- ii. What is the role of OT when working with a stroke patient?

Occupational therapists assist with teaching stroke patients how to utilize adaptive equipment to perform activities of daily living. OT's figure out what kind of equipment someone might need, and they help a patient find different ways of doing things/planning how to adapt.

- iii. Why is a speech language pathologist (SLP) important when a patient is recovering from a stroke?

SLP's can help assist a stroke patient with communication and relearning how to swallow. They focus on voice, motor speech, and fluency. Like OT, they may also incorporate assistive technology.