

Country Regional achievements 2025

ESOC Maastricht 2026 meeting
3-5 May 2026

Stroke achievements of Albania in 2025

The most important

- The most important achievements in stroke care in Albania in 2025 include the development of Stroke Unit–based care, increasing use of thrombolysis

Acute stroke care

- Sustained increase in IV thrombolysis (IVT) activity in the main national center
- Improved door-to-needle workflows and emergency pathways

Secondary prevention

- More consistent screening during hospitalization , Better initiation of anticoagulation in AF patients .
Wider use of antihypertensive therapy at discharge

Rehabilitation

- Early mobilization in Stroke Units , Bedside physiotherapy within the first 24–48 hours (when clinically stable)

Life after stroke

- More consistent use of: mRS at 3 months. Strong role of family in long term care

Stroke achievements of Armenia in 2025

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The most important

- The launch of Armenia's National Stroke Database in June 2025: nationwide monitoring of quality indicators, reperfusion pathways, outcomes, and service development

Acute stroke care

- The planned opening of a thrombectomy-ready center in Goris represents an important step toward decentralizing acute stroke care and improving timely access to mechanical thrombectomy for patients in southern Armenia

Secondary prevention

- The implementation of the Mandatory Universal Health Insurance system in Armenia creates new opportunities to strengthen secondary stroke prevention

Rehabilitation

- Earlier ICU-based rehab, expansion of subacute services, broader multidisciplinary teams including speech therapists, and improved dysphagia assessment with videofluoroscopy and FEES

Life after stroke

- No major advances



Stroke achievements of Austria in 2025

The most important

- New quality standard for stroke and new benchmarking system aligned with SAP Europe to be released in 2026

Acute stroke care

- More stroke unit beds are planned to meet the 90% benchmark (RSG 2025–2030)

Secondary prevention

- Lower risk of having recurrent stroke due to 3-month STROKE Card visit

Rehabilitation

- Focus on outpatient rehabilitation

Life after stroke

- A stroke app has been developed and is now in the testing phase (MDR)

Stroke achievements of Belarus in 2025

The most important

- Attention to the problem of stroke patients from the Ministry of Health and the Council of Ministers

Acute stroke care

- The frequency of reperfusion increased to 15.3% (IVT 13.9%, EVT 2.9%);
- Mortality from stroke decreased to 14.1%;
- 35 hospitals for stroke patients, 24 of them with angiography;
- 23,1 stroke beds per 100,000 population

Secondary prevention

- All discharged patients receive up-to-date recommendations on secondary prevention: antithrombotic therapy (antiplatelet agents, anticoagulants), lipid-lowering and antihypertensive therapy;
- Patients are provided with these medicines free of charge for 6 months

Rehabilitation

- A new concept for the development of rehabilitation services (2025);
- The first clinical protocol in the history of Belarus for the rehabilitation of stroke patients (2025)

Life after stroke

- Ministry of Social Protection: pension for the disabled; benefits for the cost of medicines; technical means of habilitation for free or at a reduced price

Stroke achievements of Belgium in 2025



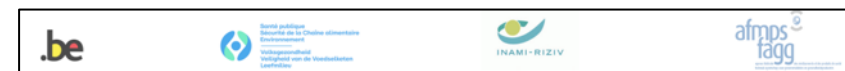
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The most important

- First national stroke care meeting 10/6/2025 with focus on national stroke care plan and stroke registry
- First national stroke audit on ischemic stroke (including acute treatment, rehab, follow-up)

Acute stroke care

- Tenecteplase reimbursed (2 May)
- WSD 2025: FAST cartoons



Secondary prevention Rehabilitation Life after stroke



Stroke achievements of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2025

The most important

- Completed EMS education for acute stroke care in Southwest BiH, we have significantly reduced Door-to-Needle times in our hospital

Acute stroke care

- Increased the number of thrombolysis centers from 13 to 15 nationwide, two centers now provide 24/7 mechanical thrombectomy service

Secondary prevention

- No significant advances

Rehabilitation

- No significant advances

Life after stroke

- No significant advances

Stroke achievements of Bulgaria in 2025

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The most important

- National Stroke Action Plan 2026 – 2030
- New Clinical Pathway from 2026 “tia”

Acute stroke care

- 42 Primary Stroke Units, 4 Stroke Centers, 4.86 – IVT, 2.1 – TE

Secondary prevention

- DOAC – 36% in PPM

Rehabilitation

- International Conference “Neurorehabilitation in The Future” on 20.03.2026

Life after stroke

- MONOGRAPHY



Stroke achievements of Catalonia in 2025

The most important

- Tender of IA software in CT/CTA/CTP
- New platform for National Stroke Registry (automatism to migrate data from IHS)

Acute stroke care

- 8 Stroke Center + 4 Stroke Units Centers+16 Telestroke center
- 2 New Primary Plus Center (Stroke Unit + Endovascular treatment 12h/7days)
- CTA available in telestroke Hospital.

Secondary prevention

- We developed several projects of continuum assistance in stroke: Telemonitoring Vasc.Risk

Rehabilitation

- Audit about rehabilitation in stroke patients in Catalonia.

Life after stroke

- School of Health, Design Expert Patient Program in Stroke, mass-media info of Stroke.

Stroke achievements of Croatia in 2025



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The most important

- National stroke registry started in May 2025

Acute stroke care

- IVT rate 17.2% in 2025; MT rate 13.9%

Secondary prevention

- All medications and procedures are available

Rehabilitation

- No significant advances

Life after stroke

- No significant advances



Stroke achievements of Cyprus in 2025

The most important

- Stronger national coordination across State Health Service Organization (MoH), Academia, Neurological Society and Cyprus Stroke Association → **National Stroke Conference**

Acute stroke care

- Establishment of a **National Stroke Center** at Nicosia General Hospital, 1 public Stroke-Ready Hospital in Limassol and 3 **stroke units** in private hospitals

Secondary prevention

- Co-development of a stroke-specific “**Patient Journey**” pathway in collaboration with the Cyprus Federation of Patient’s Association and the Cyprus Stroke Association.

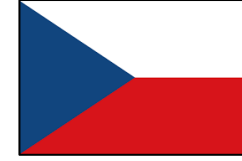
Rehabilitation

- Promoting **multidisciplinary rehabilitation** across hospital/community settings through regional trainings, supported by upcoming legislation on rehab centres service standards.

Life after stroke

- Development of digital resources and peer support for **young stroke survivors** through the **EU-funded ARYAS project** (2025-1-CY01-KA220-ADU-000350166, www.aryasproject.eu)

Stroke achievements of Czechia in 2025



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The most important

- Fully open data of quality of care for general public, stroke unit patient coordinators

Acute stroke care

- Reaccreditation of stroke network, 8 new centers (55 total) based on analysis prehospital times and coverage (Christmas star project)
- Highest recanalization rates 2024 - IVT 37 %, thrombectomy 12 %

Secondary prevention

- Setting-up the network of new specialized outpatients stroke neurologists (connected to stroke units)

Rehabilitation

- New universal triage from stroke unit to long-term rehabilitation based on mRS and Barthel

Life after stroke

- All SU have patient coordinators – who will arrange the pathway after hospitalization for each patient (including social services)

Stroke achievements of Denmark in 2025

The most important

- DSA and DSS has issued an updated, national version of SAPE. A national register for rehabilitation has been decided.

Acute stroke care

- All major goals are met! Focus on geographic and social inequality are still needed!

Secondary prevention

- The Danish healthcare system is in a phase of restructuring. Prevention is high priority - systematic and timely follow-up is on our agenda!

Rehabilitation

- Work has begun on establishing a national rehabilitation registry

Life after stroke

- Intensive political lobbyism has focused on: Inequality in rehabilitation, legislation supporting caretakers, better pathways for people living with stroke and depression.

Stroke achievements of England in 2025

The most important

- Fully rolling out Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools across 107 stroke centres, reducing treatment times by roughly one hour

Acute stroke care

- Faster imaging within 20 minutes improved to 28.3% and within one hour rose to 61.4%
- AI expansion led to expansion of Mechanical Thrombectomy service, additional 1,600 cases

Secondary prevention

- NHS 10-year long term plan launched with special focus on prevention , Renewed women's health strategy 2025

Rehabilitation

- Access to stroke/neurology specific community rehabilitation service has increased to two-thirds of all discharges, 66.6% in 2024/25, with increase in Early Supported Discharge services.

Life after stroke

- New rehabilitation model of services showed positive impact on Quality of Life (QOL); Stroke Bridging therapy project (Buckinghamshire) , Neurorehab Online (Liverpool)

Stroke achievements of Estonia in 2025

The most important

- National stroke care pathway developed in cooperation with the Estonian Health Insurance Fund

Acute stroke care

- Transition from alteplase to tenecteplase in most stroke centers

Secondary prevention

- PCSK 9 inhibitors reimbursed for patients after stroke

Rehabilitation

- National stroke care pathway defining continuity of rehabilitation

Life after stroke

- National stroke care pathway defining follow-up and coordination of care up to 1 year

Stroke achievements of Finland in 2025

The most important

- Continuous work with Perfect–Stroke registry (restarted 2024 with THL)

Acute stroke care

- National campaign about Stroke awareness starting (work in progress)

Secondary prevention

- Purchase of BP medication and statins after stroke increased (Perfect-Stroke data)

Rehabilitation

- No clear progress

Life after stroke

- No clear progress

Stroke achievements of France in 2025

The most important

- Getting direct access to our national reimbursement databases
- Court of Accounts (state finances auditors) report on stroke care advocating for more investments (October 25)

Acute stroke care

- High Health Authority guidelines on pharm. interv. in acute stroke care in Oct. 25
- Creation of a nationwide working group on quality improvement: StrokeDataLink with our scientific network and professional association, with a network of 18 on-ground personnel for each region for direct communications.

Secondary prevention

- No advances

Rehabilitation

- Court of Accounts noted that our current system was lacking (but didn't offer any potential solutions...)

Life after stroke

- No advances

Stroke achievements of Georgia in 2025

The most important

- Ongoing certification process of primary and secondary (comprehensive) stroke centers

Acute stroke care

- Increased number of IVT and EVT; mothership model implemented

Secondary prevention

- More pts on DOACs and statins; more robust antihypertensive strategy

Rehabilitation

- Number of outpatients rehab centers increased

Life after stroke

Stroke achievements of Germany in 2025

The most important

- Start of a national stroke research network (funded by German Health Ministry)

Acute stroke care

- Well organised acute care (i.e. 348 certified stroke units)
- Active research community, first stroke congress in 2025 organised by the German Stroke Society

Secondary prevention

- Well organised secondary prevention by general practitioners, involvement and cooperation with neurologists still to be improved

Rehabilitation

- Development of medical guideline on mobility therapy after stroke (completion in 2026)
- Completion of a brochure for spasticity and stroke by the German Stroke Foundation

Life after stroke

- Development of new guideline for stroke aftercare (completion in 2026)

Stroke achievements of Hungary in 2025



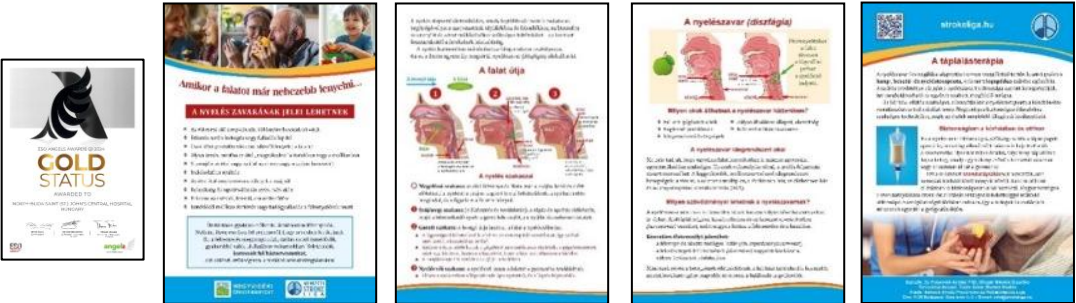
The most important

- Successful tenders have ensured and developed the activities of the Stroke League

Acute stroke care

Quality control tracking

- Dysphagia project – nutrition therapy during and after stroke



Secondary prevention

- Maintaining close and good relationships with GP-s (hospital GP).

Brochures for GPs



Rehabilitation and life after stroke

- Brochures for stroke survivals and their relatives



Stroke achievements of Iceland in 2025

The most important

- Approval for ongoing MSc in Neurology/Stroke nursing with 18-22 ECTS dedicated for neurology/stroke (to be launched Autumn 2027, pending on final approval and >14 applicants)
- Opening of a Geriatric stroke rehabilitation unit at Landakot – improving flow and continuity also for the more frail and elderly stroke patients
- Established collaboration with Kjark – stroke rehabilitation at “slushing out to society in up to two-years for stroke patients cognitively impaired
- Continued progress toward signing the SAP-E Declaration and the Icelandic National Stroke Plan/ Initial working on the National Stroke Plan. Goodwill from the Directorate of Health and the Ministry of Health, with constructive collaboration established. We remain cautiously optimistic that the declaration can be signed before Autumn. Follow-up meeting planned for 13 May

Acute stroke care, secondary prevention, rehabilitation

- Progress toward integrating rehabilitation indicators into national stroke documentation
- First draft of rehabilitation care bundles approved for implementation across care settings: Landakot, Grensás, and the acute neurology ward
- Ethical approval obtained to register stroke-related data in REDCap and RES-Q
- First draft developed of a holistic transition pathway from hospital to rehabilitation and community-based follow-up



Stroke achievements of Israel in 2025

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The most important

- New MOH Acute Stroke Care Directive revised from 2011, Defining practice standards for ED, Recanalization Rx and Stroke Units

Acute stroke care

- Increase in no. of Stroke Units beds=120 (55 in CSC with MT)
- 11.7% IVT (estimated 13%), 8% MT (estimated 11%)

Secondary prevention

- Establishing inter-disciplinary practice with Cardiology (LAAO, Ablation, cardiac imaging), Internal Medicine (Metablism , atherosclerosis, Hemostasis).

Rehabilitation

- 1st year of State additional funding Specifically for in-hospital stroke care. Foundation of new neuro-rahabilitaion departments inside tertiary hospitals.
- Series of 12 Online Zoom Lectures about stroke prevention, managing disability (pain, spasticity, depression, insomnia etc.) 2nd round starting with more exposure.

Life after stroke



Stroke achievements of Italy in 2025

The most important

- First draft of National Stroke Action Plan under review

Acute stroke care

- Analysis of detailed regional access to reperfusion treatment and Stroke Unit beds coverage through the MAPSTROKE Italy
- 267 new stroke unit beds across the country (total 1491)

Secondary prevention

- The Italian Stroke Association is working on position/consensus papers on secondary prevention

Rehabilitation

- National Census of rehabilitation beds ongoing to calculate current coverage

Life after stroke

- Creation of a series of educational podcasts for patients and caregivers (Maledictus)
- Active collaboration between the Italian Stroke Association and the National Stroke patients' association (ALICE)

Stroke achievements of Kyrgyzstan in 2025

The most important

- SAP-E Declaration signed on 30 June 2025

Acute stroke care

- Thrombolysis therapy implemented in governmental hospital

Secondary prevention

- Antiagregants, statins, hypotensive therapy

Rehabilitation

- Early rehabilitation only in private clinic (Korteks, Vedanta), and late rehabilitation in governmental hospital

Life after stroke

- Follow up after stroke

Stroke achievements of Latvia in 2025

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The most important

- Riga became the world's first capital city to be recognized as Angels region

Acute stroke care

- IV thrombolysis rate in the country exceeds 16 %

Secondary prevention

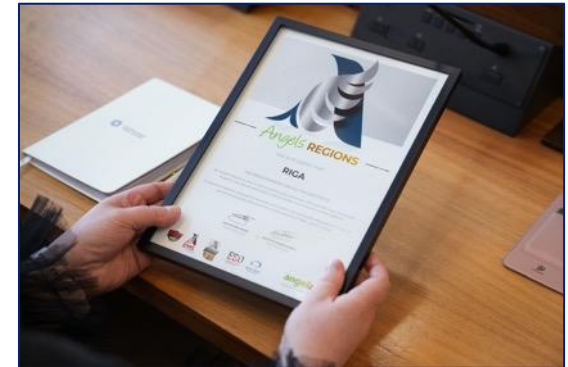
- Anticoagulants prescribed in 98% of cardioembolic stroke patients

Rehabilitation

- No achievements, < 20% patients receive subacute in-patient rehabilitation

Life after stroke

- No achievements



Stroke achievements of Lithuania in 2025

The most important

- Update of National Guidelines for Stroke Management

Acute stroke care

- Extended time window for IVT; implementation of tenecteplase; improved monitoring of KPIs in Lithuanian stroke network

Secondary prevention

- More liberal prescribing of reimbursable NOACs

Rehabilitation

- None

Life after stroke

- Order of the Minister of Health on the long-term outpatient care for stroke patients

Stroke achievements of the Republic of Moldova in 2025

The most important

- In 2025, Moldova strengthened its national stroke system through better organization, improved access to stroke care, and expanded public awareness campaigns.

Acute stroke care

- Thrombolysis increased by ~25%, reflecting faster pathways and improved acute stroke treatment.

Secondary prevention

- Broader access to secondary prevention therapies, with more key medications partially reimbursed by National Health Insurance Company

Rehabilitation

- The ongoing project “Modernization and Improvement of Rehabilitation Services”

Life after stroke

- Ongoing development of a dedicated digital platform for stroke survivors and families, alongside a 3-month post-stroke monitoring system.

Stroke achievements Montenegro in 2025

The most important

- First annual stroke conference in Montenegro, Clinical registry for Clinical center of Montenegro, a lot of promises from MOH, WHO, but...

Acute stroke care

- No new data

Secondary prevention

- All drugs available, but no new data

Rehabilitation

- In hospital rehabilitation first year after stroke twice 4wk

Life after stroke

- No new data

Stroke achievements of The Netherlands in 2025

The most important

- National round tables with experts as groundwork for **national stroke action plan**.

Acute stroke care

- Study shows **regional variability** in referral policies and recommends to increase use of data dashboards to further improve quality of care. Introduction of new **IGT-system**.

Secondary prevention

- Focus on **gender-responsive** care and prevention care pathways to reduce inequities.

Rehabilitation

- Improvement in participation in first 2 months is associated with improved HRQoL at one year. Include **assessment of daily activities** during follow-up visits.

Life after stroke

- **Co-design sessions with stroke survivors** to implement Patient Reported Experience Measures (PREMs) into strengthening of service delivery across the entire chain of care.

Stroke achievements of Northern Ireland in 2025

The most important

- Regional approach to recording data and meeting standards in SSNAP, aligning with 2023 National Clinical Guidelines (Stroke network)

Acute stroke care

- Completion of roll out of AI in stroke imaging across all stroke units in NI

Secondary prevention

- Regional TIA pathway implementation – focus on standardisation of monitoring

Rehabilitation

- Further pilots of virtual reality and roll out of group therapy approaches

Life after stroke

- Updated content of “My Stroke Journey”

Stroke achievements of Norway in 2025

The most important

- National survey of IVT in extended time window shows geographical variations, planned for publication and advocacy
- National stroke network for coordination of regional stroke networks under establishment
- Initiative for National procurement of an integrated AI Decision Support Tool for Image Assessment and Clinical Communication
- Implementation of Annual Stroke Unit Quality Indicator Audits in the Norwegian Stroke Registry

ACUTE STROKE CARE- NO **ADVANCEMENT**

- 10,300 strokes/year; SU <24h: 69%; IVT 22% DTN 30 min; MT 7.6% DTG 115 min

SECONDARY PREVENTION – NO **ADVANCEMENT**

- Antithrombotics 97%; lipid-lowering >90%; antihypertensives >90%;

REHABILITATION – NO **ADVANCEMENT**

LIFE AFTER STROKE – NO **ADVANCEMENT**

Problems

- Follow-up 64% (target ≥90%); community rehab audit partial; no ESO/national SU certification

Stroke achievements of Norway in 2025

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Secondary prevention

- Antithrombotics 97%; lipid-lowering >90%; antihypertensives >90%;

Rehabilitation

Life after stroke

- Problems: Follow-up 64% (target $\geq 90\%$); community rehab audit partial; no ESO/national SU certification

Stroke achievements of Poland in 2025

The most important

- Preparing the ground for the central procurement of post-processing software for all 186 stroke units by the Ministry of Health, expected in a few weeks

Acute stroke care

- Progressing transition from rtPA to TNK, reaching approximately 60% at the end of 2025
- Increase in the proportion of AIS patients treated with MT from 7% to almost 8%
- Drafting good-practice guidance for dispatchers and ambulance teams endorsed by the National Consultant in Neurology and Emergency Medicine, and by the Minister of Health, awaiting signatures

Secondary prevention

- Introduction of generic reimbursed apixaban for AF to the market
- Expanding implementation of reimbursed ILRs for cryptogenic stroke survivors

Rehabilitation and Life after stroke

- No major advances in 2025

Stroke achievements of Portugal in 2025

The most important

- Expansion of Stroke Units and thrombectomy-capable centres
- Expansion of ESO-certified Stroke Centres

Acute stroke care

- New Stroke Unit established (Beja – ULS Baixo Alentejo, December 2024)
- Endovascular thrombectomy now available in Algarve
- New stroke centres planned (Azores – São Miguel Island)
- Increasing number of iv thrombolysis and thrombectomy procedures
- Seven Stroke Units and three Stroke Centres submitted for ESO certification (ESO/Angels Certification Programme)
- New ESO-certified Stroke Centre (Funchal)

Stroke achievements of Romania in 2025

The most important

- FOCUS – STROKE Project (EU funded project, 2024 – 2028)
 - Development of 4 national guidelines regarding: AIS, ICH, TIA, SAH
 - National guideline for hyperacute AIS management (IVT & EVT) endorsed by the MoH and published as a law
 - Updated version of the Romanian Stroke Registry dedicated to IVT & EVT
 - Training completed for 7 neurointerventionists
- The National Strategy for Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases 2024-2030
 - aimed to define and implement national health policies, directing the use of healthcare resources for these high-burden pathologies – aligned with SAP-E targets & KPIs, endorsed by MoH, approved by the government

Acute stroke care

- National IVT rate: 10.9% (vs 9.5% in 2024), national EVT rate: 3.1% in 2025 vs 2.1% in 2024 (↑47%)
- 3 new IVT ready hospitals, 3 new EVT ready hospitals (total in RO: 50 IVT ready & 13 EVT ready centers)

Secondary prevention - ns

Rehabilitation

- Updated protocol for The Priority Action for acute stroke rehabilitation (programme implemented by the MoH) – aimed to finance devices and medical supplies to support in-hospital rehabilitation procedures

Life after stroke - ns

Stroke achievements of Scotland in 2025

Thrombectomy

- 210 thrombectomy procedures in 2025

Acute stroke care

- Updated stroke standards and definitions agreed for 2027
- Improve data alignment with SSNAP

Secondary prevention

- Working with Scottish Government on CVD Quality prescribing guidelines

Rehabilitation

- Pilot of rehab audit now being incorporated into Scottish Stroke Care audit for routine data collection

Life after stroke

- Six-month reviews as part of routine care

Stroke achievements of Serbia in 2025

The most important

- New Stroke Guideline is finished

Acute stroke care

- Functional networks between Comprehensive Stroke Centers (CSC) and Stroke Ready Hospitals (SRH)

Secondary prevention

- Raised the level of awareness on this topic among health professionals and stroke survivors

Rehabilitation

- Increased in the number of speech therapists in many hospitals

Life after stroke

- Improved peer to peer support between SS

Stroke achievements of Slovakia in 2025

The most important

- ESO Angels Awards: 49% Gold, 21% Platinum, 23% Diamond

Acute stroke care

- TNK as a routine therapy in most centres, stable IVT and MT rate (24% and 11%)

Secondary prevention

- No significant change

Rehabilitation

- No significant change

Life after stroke

- Standard cooperation

Stroke achievements of Slovenia in 2025

The most important

- Organised the International Symposium of Vascular Neurology 2025, defining national stroke pathways and aligning with European practice (<https://neurovasc.eu/>)

Acute stroke care

- TeleKap – national telemedicine network that provides acute care in all peripheral hospitals. Only 3 stroke centers/units. In 2025 - national IVT (16.3%) and MT (9.4%) rates collected for quality monitoring.

Secondary prevention

- Improved data collection and implementation of guideline-based prevention strategies. Structured approach to TIA or small stroke, risk stratification, and prevention strategies.

Rehabilitation

- Integrated into multidisciplinary stroke pathway, most patients receive some rehabilitation after stroke in local spas, availability of multidisciplinary rehabilitation is limited.

Life after stroke

- Local Participation in TRUSTroke project, focusing on long-term support and quality of life.

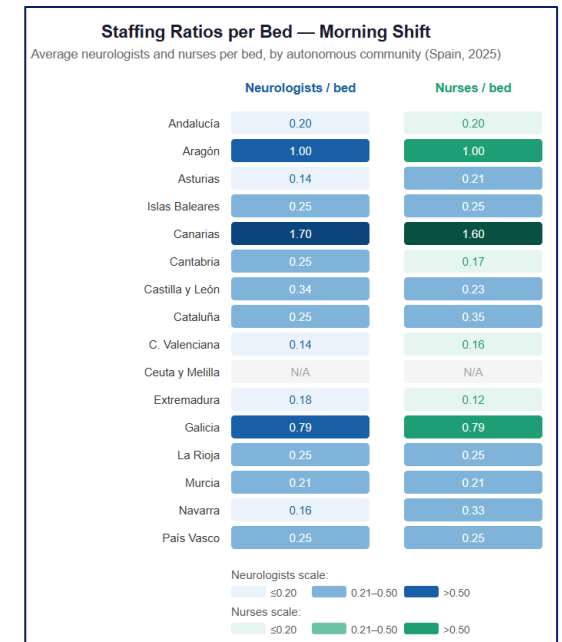
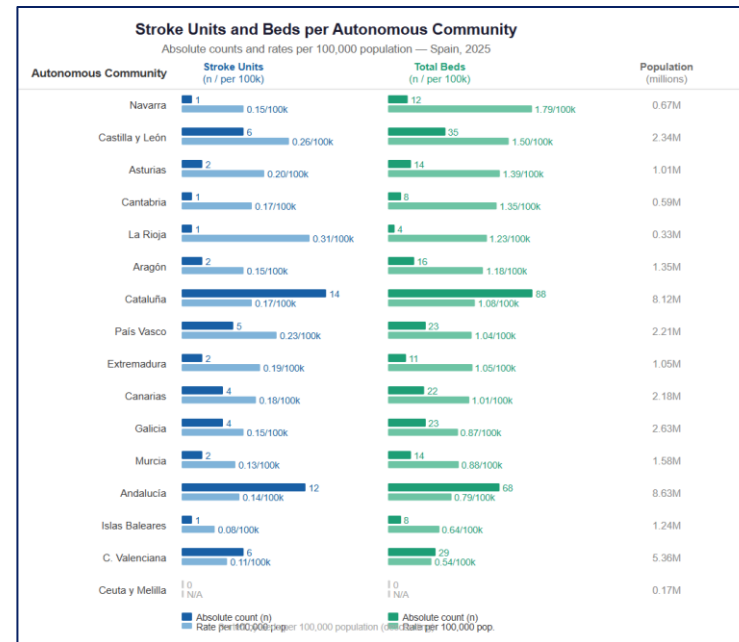
Stroke achievements of Spain in 2025

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The most important

- Stroke Unit's survey to evaluate the implementation of the National Strategy

Acute stroke care



Secondary prevention
Rehabilitation
Life after stroke

Collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Health on public education through a series of webinars

Stroke achievements of Sweden in Q3 2024 - Q2 2025

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The most important

- Increased reperfusion rates, and 55% thrombolysis within 30 min

Acute stroke care

- Stable use of Stroke Units

Secondary prevention

- Stable prescription rate

Rehabilitation

- Stable satisfaction with acute rehabilitation
- Later rehabilitation is a challenge

Life after stroke

- Fewer dead or ADL-dependant
- Structured FU is a challenge



Stroke achievements of Ukraine in 2025

The most important

- Situational analysis of acute stroke care in Ukraine: evaluating trends and improving quality, Practicing Stroke Medicine in War Zones (*Stroke*. 2025 Apr; 56(4):e119-e123);
- QI: monitoring visits to 70+ hospitals, Stroke Care Dashboards;
- 4th Technical Meeting on Stroke (18 November 2025).

Acute stroke care

- The proportion of IV tPA and MT in AIS have increased to 17% and 3.4%, respectively

Secondary prevention

- Decision to include DOACs in the Government-funded 'Affordable drugs' program

Rehabilitation

- 19.8% of post-stroke patients received rehabilitation

Life after stroke

- A series of publications by the MoH Public Health Centre.

Stroke achievements of Wales in 2025

The most important

- Developed the Quality statement and Service standards for Stroke in Wales

Acute stroke care

- Thrombectomy centre opened in Cardiff Wales, CYP2C19 testing pilot and Pre Hospital Video Triage

Secondary prevention

- ABCD + commenced in Wales

Rehabilitation

- Audit of workforce commenced

Life after stroke

- Quality statement for life after stroke