
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STROKE CARE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the rapid
2 identification, diagnosis, and treatment of strokes can save the
3 lives of stroke patients and, in some cases, can reverse
4 neurological damage such as speech and language impairments or
5 paralysis, leaving stroke patients with few or no neurological
6 deficits. Despite significant advances in diagnosis, treatment,
7 and prevention, stroke is a leading cause of death nationally
8 and in Hawaii. An estimated 795,000 new and recurrent strokes
9 occur each year in this country. With the aging of the
10 population, the number of persons who have strokes is projected
11 to increase. Although treatments are available to improve the
12 clinical outcomes of stroke, acute care hospitals need
13 sufficient trained staff and equipment to optimally triage and
14 treat stroke patients. A system is needed in our communities to
15 ensure the provision of optimal, safe, and effective emergency
16 care in a timely manner to improve the overall treatment of
17 stroke patients in order to increase survival and decrease
18 incidents of disabilities associated with stroke. This system



1 of care should include input and advice from national subject
2 matter organizations such as the American Heart Association,
3 American Stroke Association, and Brain Attack Coalition. The
4 legislature further finds that the establishment of a stroke
5 coalition and a stroke database will build on the work and
6 infrastructure developed through S.C.R. No. 155 S.D. 1 (2013).

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
9 to read as follows:

10 "PART . STROKE CARE

11 §321- Definitions. As used in this part, unless the
12 context requires otherwise:

13 "Department" means the department of health.

14 "Stroke coalition" means a multi-organizational process of
15 public, private, and nonprofit organizations working together
16 for a common purpose to improve stroke outcomes throughout the
17 State.

18 "Stroke database" means a stroke coalition-approved,
19 existing, nationally recognized and validated data platform
20 available to the department and all participating hospitals



1 statewide and that has features to maintain confidentiality
2 standards and data security.

3 §321- Stroke system of care; department duties. (a)

4 The department shall participate in a systematic process to
5 evaluate, improve, and sustain stroke care throughout the State
6 to reduce death and disability from stroke. The stroke system
7 of care shall include:

8 (1) The requirement that hospitals meet specific stroke
9 patient treatment capabilities that will ensure that
10 stroke patients receive safe and effective care;

11 (2) The coordination with the State's emergency medical
12 services system to ensure that stroke patients are
13 quickly identified, transported to, and treated in
14 facilities that have specialized programs for
15 providing timely and effective treatment for stroke
16 patients to improve outcomes; and

17 (3) The continuation of a statewide stroke coalition to
18 provide a mechanism to evaluate and improve stroke
19 care in the State.

20 (b) The department shall participate in the stroke
21 coalition to:



- 1 (1) Provide agreed upon state level reports of de-
2 identified and aggregated data to the stroke
3 coalition, government agencies, hospitals,
4 researchers, and other interested parties that have a
5 role in improving stroke care;
- 6 (2) Analyze data generated by the stroke database to
7 identify potential interventions to improve stroke
8 response and treatment;
- 9 (3) Identify issues related to early identification,
10 triage, treatment, and transport of possible acute
11 stroke patients;
- 12 (4) Encourage sharing of information and data among health
13 care providers on ways to improve the quality of care
14 of stroke patients in the State; and
- 15 (5) Develop and implement strategies to improve stroke
16 early identification and treatment, including
17 identifying specific hospital capabilities to receive,
18 treat, and transfer stroke patients.

19 §321- Stroke database. (a) All acute care hospitals
20 that receive stroke patients from emergency medical services
21 shall report data consistent with requirements of the stroke

1 database on the treatment of all individuals with a suspected or
2 confirmed stroke.

3 (b) The department shall participate in a stroke database
4 that compiles information and statistics on stroke care that
5 aligns with the consensus stroke metrics developed and approved
6 by national subject-matter organizations and utilize it to
7 support the stroke coalition's evaluation of stroke care in the
8 State for performance improvement.

9 §321- Confidential information. The department and
10 stroke coalition shall not disclose any confidential information
11 or other data in violation of the federal and state privacy
12 regulations."

13 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Strokes; Coalition; Database; Stroke System of Care

Description:

Requires DOH to participate in a stroke system of care.
Requires certain acute care hospitals to report data for the
stroke database and requires DOH to participate in the stroke
database. (SD1)

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