

**144.493 CRITERIA.**

Subdivision 1. **Comprehensive stroke center.** A hospital meets the criteria for a comprehensive stroke center if the hospital has been certified as a comprehensive stroke center by the joint commission or another nationally recognized accreditation entity.

Subd. 2. **Primary stroke center.** A hospital meets the criteria for a primary stroke center if the hospital has been certified as a primary stroke center by the joint commission or another nationally recognized accreditation entity.

Subd. 3. **Acute stroke ready hospital.** A hospital meets the criteria for an acute stroke ready hospital if the hospital has the following elements of an acute stroke ready hospital:

- (1) an acute stroke team available or on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
- (2) written stroke protocols, including triage, stabilization of vital functions, initial diagnostic tests, and use of medications;
- (3) a written plan and letter of cooperation with emergency medical services regarding triage and communication that are consistent with regional patient care procedures;
- (4) emergency department personnel who are trained in diagnosing and treating acute stroke;
- (5) the capacity to complete basic laboratory tests, electrocardiograms, and chest x-rays 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
- (6) the capacity to perform and interpret brain injury imaging studies 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
- (7) written protocols that detail available emergent therapies and reflect current treatment guidelines, which include performance measures and are revised at least annually;
- (8) a neurosurgery coverage plan, call schedule, and a triage and transportation plan;
- (9) transfer protocols and agreements for stroke patients; and
- (10) a designated medical director with experience and expertise in acute stroke care.

**History:** 2013 c 108 art 12 s 31