



**ALBERTA PROVINCIAL STROKE STRATEGY
(APSS)**

**APSS Health Care Provider Education Advisory
Group**

Terms of Reference (Draft #2)

January 23, 2007



Terms of Reference
Health Care Provider Education Advisory Group
Alberta Provincial Stroke Strategy (APSS)
JANUARY, 2007 DRAFT #2

Mandate:

To oversee the development, coordination, implementation and evaluation of a provincial approach to health care provider stroke education within the Alberta Provincial Stroke Strategy (APSS). To ensure that all regions have equitable access to evidence-based stroke education and training programs for healthcare providers involved in health promotion, prevention, emergency, acute care, rehabilitation, community care and long term care.

Goals:

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- Promote widespread distribution and use of APSS and Canadian Stroke Strategy Best Practices in stroke care.
- Increase accessibility of stroke education for all health care providers
- Increase health care provider knowledge and skills in topic areas related to their specific needs and location of practice
- Increase health care provider confidence and capacity to deliver optimal stroke care
- Sustain stroke expertise across the province by connecting continuing education to new research and emerging knowledge.

Scope: Development and implementation of professional development programs for physicians and other health care providers in Alberta. Education plans will span the stroke continuum but exclude medical school curriculum planning at the University of Alberta and University of Edmonton. The group will focus primarily on long-term and ongoing stroke education needs in the province.

Principles:

- Flexible approach to meeting specific education needs linked to quality assurance and evaluation outcomes
- Increase workforce effectiveness by tapping into new skills sets
- Decrease duplication of effort and gaps in education
- Create culture of mutual respect for each other roles and skills, advancing the work of high functioning interdisciplinary team

Responsibilities:

- Identify and prioritize provincial stroke education and training needs
- Ensure all education and training activities and content are in alignment with best practice standards of care and are evaluated on a regular basis
- Advocate for the adoption of mandatory stroke education for health care providers that care for stroke patients
- Establish and recommend minimum standards of education for various health care providers working in different environments
- Identify current education initiatives in place and build on their strengths in accordance with best practice guidelines
- Identify resources required to sustain learning over the long term
- Increase access to and continuity of knowledge transfer, training & education using a variety of modalities (i.e. telemedicine, web-based, face to face)

- Build a network that allows regional education coordinators to communicate issues and ideas regarding the development, implementation and evaluation of educational programs to promote best practice stroke care
- Facilitate partnerships with major stakeholders within the province as well as stroke education initiatives in other provinces
- Provide forum for provincial and regional stroke education issues and sharing of ideas and experiences
- Liaise with the Canadian Stroke Strategy Professional Development Working Group
- Liaise with other provinces to facilitate knowledge dissemination and shared learning opportunities
- Support the implementation of National Standards of Stroke Care in all Health Regions
- Oversee the evaluation of stroke education initiatives for acceptability, appropriateness, accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency and recommend changes in approaches and strategies.

Membership:

APSS Education Project Manager
 APSS Project Manager
 Health Education Manager, HSFA
 Representative from each Health Region Stroke Steering Committee (9)
 Front Line Staff member(s)
 National Stroke Nursing Council (Alberta representative)
 Stroke neurologist
 General practitioner(s)
 Pillar members
 Telestroke Working Group representative
 Others?

Committee and Reporting Structure:

Reports to the Alberta Stroke Council. Working groups will be established as needed to conduct specific work and report to the APSS HCP Education Advisory Group.

Committee Linkages:

APSS Pillars 1-4
 Regional Stroke Steering Committees
 Telestroke Working Group
 Canadian Stroke Strategy Professional Development and Training Working Group
 National Stroke Nursing Council – Canadian Stroke Strategy

Schedule of Meetings:

Meetings to be held monthly, primarily via teleconference with face to face meetings as required