

COUNTY OF ORANGE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

HEALTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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Excellence Integrity Service

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To: EMS System

From: Tammi McConnell, RN, MSN OCEMS Program Manager

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Subject: STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

Three years ago, Orange County Emergency Medical Services became the first in the nation to successfully implement a county-wide stroke system that incorporated prehospital triage of patients by paramedics to county-designated stroke centers. To date, paramedics and ambulances have transported over 4,500 patients with acute stroke symptoms to the Stroke Neurology Receiving Center's (SNRC) listed below. As designated SNRC's, these hospitals offer immediate medical and neurovascular interventions, rehabilitative services and stroke-related public education.

Hoag Hospital Mission Hospital Los Alamitos Medical Center Fountain Valley Regional Medical Center Saddleback Memorial Medical Center – Laguna Hills

University of California Irvine Medical Center Western Medical Center Santa Ana Saint Jude Medical Center St. Joseph Hospital

In January 2012, an article entitled "Organization of a United States County System for Comprehensive Acute Stroke Care" was published in the Journal of Stroke describing the OC Stroke Neurology System. The article depicts the implementation process as being one with broad county and medical consensus which culminated in political support for the program by the 2009 OC Board of Supervisors. A meaningful appreciation is acknowledged to the medical professionals involved with the formation, analysis and publication of the first two years of SNRC data:

OCEMS Medical Director, **Dr. Samuel J. Stratton** (Topic Editor) OCEMS Asst Medical Director, **Dr. Ken Miller Dr. Stephen Waldman Dr. Anthony Ciabarra Dana Stradling, BSN Dr. Richard Dauben** Dr. Steven C. Cramer (Lead Author) Dr. Ignacio M. Carrillo-Nunez Dr. Elizabeth N. Traynor Dr. Michael Cummings Dr. David L. Lombardi Dr. David M. Brown Dr. Nirav Patel

In honor of May as Stroke Awareness Month, Orange County EMS is proud to acknowledge and thank the SNRC's, Medical Directors, Stroke Nurse Coordinators and all of our Emergency Medical Services personnel for their dedication and commitment to providing quality stroke care to all citizens accessing the 9-1-1 system.

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