



# Stroke Telemedicine Newsletter

Dec 2011



## 280 telemedicine cases!

Welcome to the third **Stroke Telemedicine Newsletter**. We continue to be really busy and have assessed and treated over 280 patients to date. The thrombolysis rate remains the same overall at 38% and I have been looking at the data from the Audit Forms and feeding this back to the individual hospitals.

I have emailed all of you individually with your data and will share some of the more generic information in this Newsletter

### Princess Alexandra Hospital—UPDATE

PAH, Harlow will be going live end of Dec/early January 2012—no date confirmed as yet but I will keep you posted. We will also be welcoming Drs Syed Mansoor & Salmeena Hameed onto the regional rota in January.

## Staying in touch over Christmas & New Year

I have emailed the Superusers and uploaded the Christmas rota onto the Stroke website. As you will see, the rota looks different from usual, since we are splitting the days amongst the Consultants, so that no individual is on call for any length of time.

We hope that this will mean that everyone will be able to have some much deserved time with their families & friends and still maintain that all important cover over the Christmas period.

**So please ensure that all staff check the rota carefully prior to contacting the Stroke Consultant.**

### **\*\* STOP PRESS \*\* STOP PRESS \*\***

I will be available over Christmas & New Year, so if there are any issues related to telemedicine, please contact:

**Lynda Sibson 07714140205**

## Case of the month

If you recall in the last newsletter, one of the regular features suggested for this Newsletter was a '**Case of the Month**'.

We thought that it would be really interesting to have a case each month that has stood out for a particular reason — perhaps an unusual presentation or an unexpected outcome.

If you have a case that you think would be appropriate and of interest to all the team, then please email me with some information.

Any interesting cases—please contact me at:

[Lynda.sibson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:Lynda.sibson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk)

## Changes to the rota

There will be some changes to the Consultants rota as we have some Consultants leaving and some new faces joining the rota. In addition to the two Stroke Consultants at PAH, Dr Anne Nicolson from West Suffolk Hospital & her colleague, Dr Abul Azim, will be also be joining our current team of experts in the New Year

Dr Paul Cotter will be standing down from the rota at the end of January—thank you to Paul for all his hard work & commitment

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Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



## Retrospective Audit—Level 2 hospitals

You should all have received some data from me in the form of a spreadsheet & a PowerPoint presentation of the local telemedicine activity at your site.

We are planning to undertake a retrospective audit of all patients who have had a telemedicine consultation over the past year (i.e. from Nov 2010—Nov 2011).



**But in order to capture this data I will need your help!**

Ideally we need the **Stroke Telemedicine One Year Audit Form** completing for each patient (I have emailed an anonymised patient list to each site). This Audit Form requires completing for each patient and returned to me as soon as possible.

**I know that this is a really big ask—as everyone is busy especially at this time of year!**

However, if the notes for each of these patients could be retrieved and made available, Diana, myself and a couple of the research team based here at Addenbrookes Hospital would be happy to assist with collating this information.

**You may be required to check with either your Clinical Governance lead and/or your Audit Department.**

I will be contacting all the sites in the New Year to organise the data collection, so just let me know if you require any assistance.

The reason for the Audit is to ensure that the service is achieving its aims & objectives. We would also like to publish our findings in an appropriate peer-reviewed journal and present at conferences!

### ...and talking of conferences...

I will be presenting the stroke telemedicine service at the **Emergency Medicine 2012** conference in London on Friday 13th January!

For more information—visit

<http://>

[www.mahealthcareevents.co.uk/](http://www.mahealthcareevents.co.uk/)

[cgi-bin/go.pl/conferences/detail.html?conference\\_uid=262](http://cgi-bin/go.pl/conferences/detail.html?conference_uid=262)



## Stroke Forum—Glasgow

STROKE FORUM



### Remaining on the conference theme.....

A number of you attended the **Stroke Forum UK in Glasgow** and this was a very successful conference. As you may know we had a stand in the Exhibition Hall, kindly hosted by IOCOM, the company developing the telemedicine software. We had a lot of interest in telemedicine and a number of subsequent emails and queries. So it seems that we are of interest to other sites who are thinking of setting up a similar service.

We appear to be attracting international interest in addition to national recognition as we have been approached by trusts in Newcastle, Wales, Australia and Brazil.

However our focus remains on developing and improving our award-winning service.

## Sound issues

We have had a number of issues related to sound quality recently. Most issues were fairly easy to deal with (thanks to our IT whiz—Jim Bibby!). Some of the common issues that came up I thought I would share with you:

- 1) **Plug it in** — Consultants need to plug their soundboxes into their laptops **BEFORE** starting the consultation. If you do forget, just reboot the laptop.
- 2) **Stick it down**—one site had a rather badly damaged soundbox that appeared to have fallen from the cart damaging the switches at the back. This was resolved by using Velcro to secure it to the cart
- 3) **Get wired in**—working wirelessly can be a challenge for the cart, particularly if the network is busy - so if sound is an issue, try reverting to plugging the network cable in & going wired.

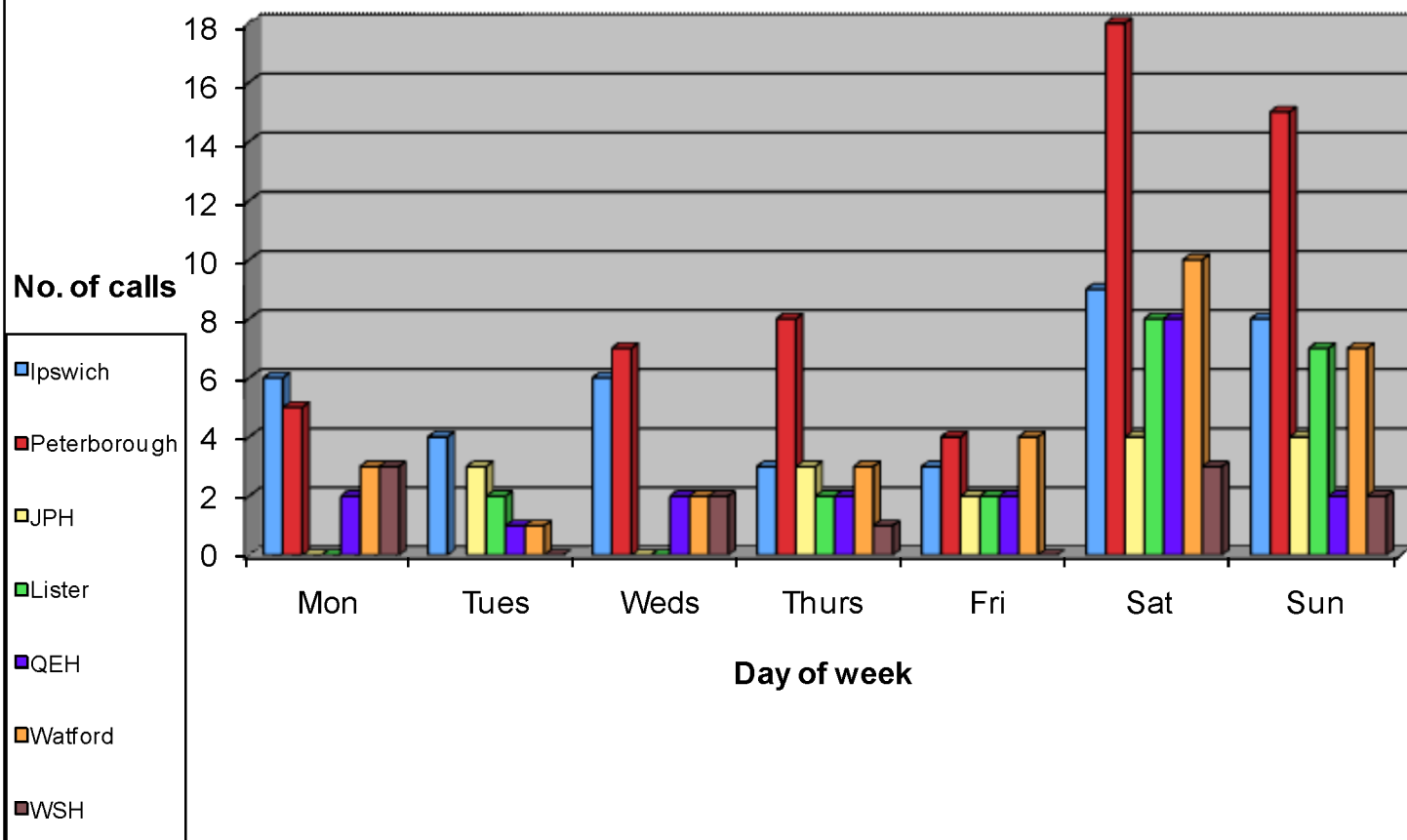


If you have any continuing sound issues, please let us know

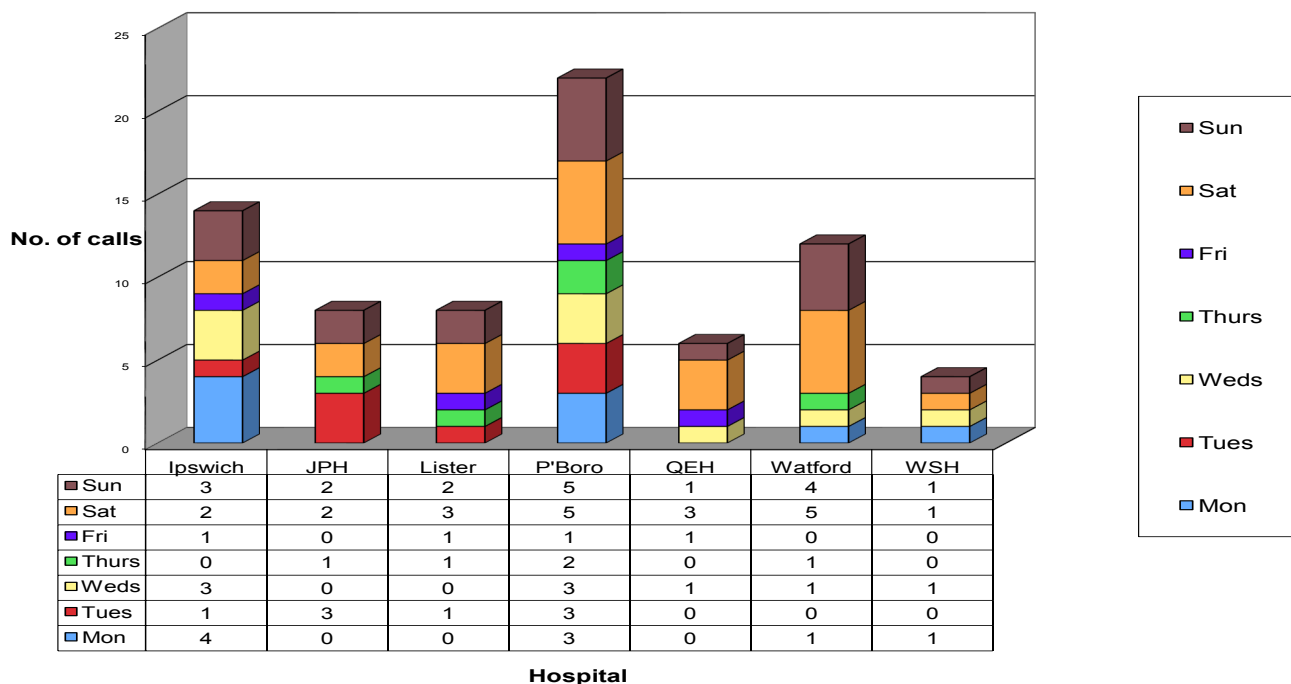
## Some facts & figures

The following data has been generated from the Level 2 sites and is from 10th Nov 2010 to 8th Nov 2011. The data is taken from the returned Audit Forms from all the Consultants on the regional rota.

### EoE Overview - daily use of stroke telemedicine by all hospitals

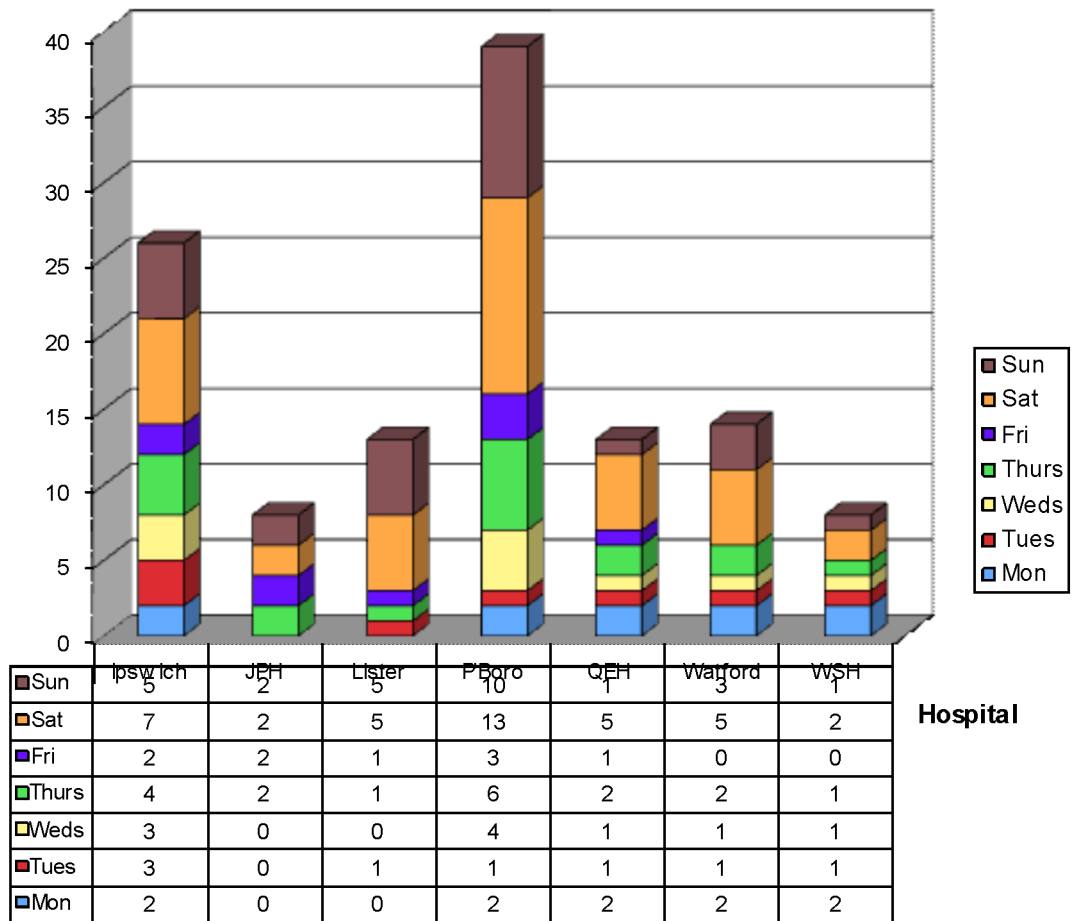


### Thrombolysis calls/hospital/day



## Non-thrombolysis calls /hospital/day

No. of calls



Hospital

## A BIG thank you!

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the stroke telemedicine service for ALL your hard work & commitment this year. I know that telemedicine is in addition to an ever-increasing workload for many of you and you always manage to respond quickly to any issues. So many thanks!



## New look Stroke Telemedicine Website

We are planning to move to a new home for the Stroke Telemedicine website and I wanted to take this opportunity to see if you had any suggestions or ideas for the new website. The new website will obviously need to have the same functionality, such as the rota and important contact details. However we do have the opportunity to make it more sophisticated and user-friendly, so any ideas or suggestions, please let me know!

Lynda Sibson—[lynda.sibson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:lynda.sibson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk)



## Contact Details

Just a quick reminder of our contact details:

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(Please note this is Jim's new email)



## ...and finally!

Just to wish you all a very peaceful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!