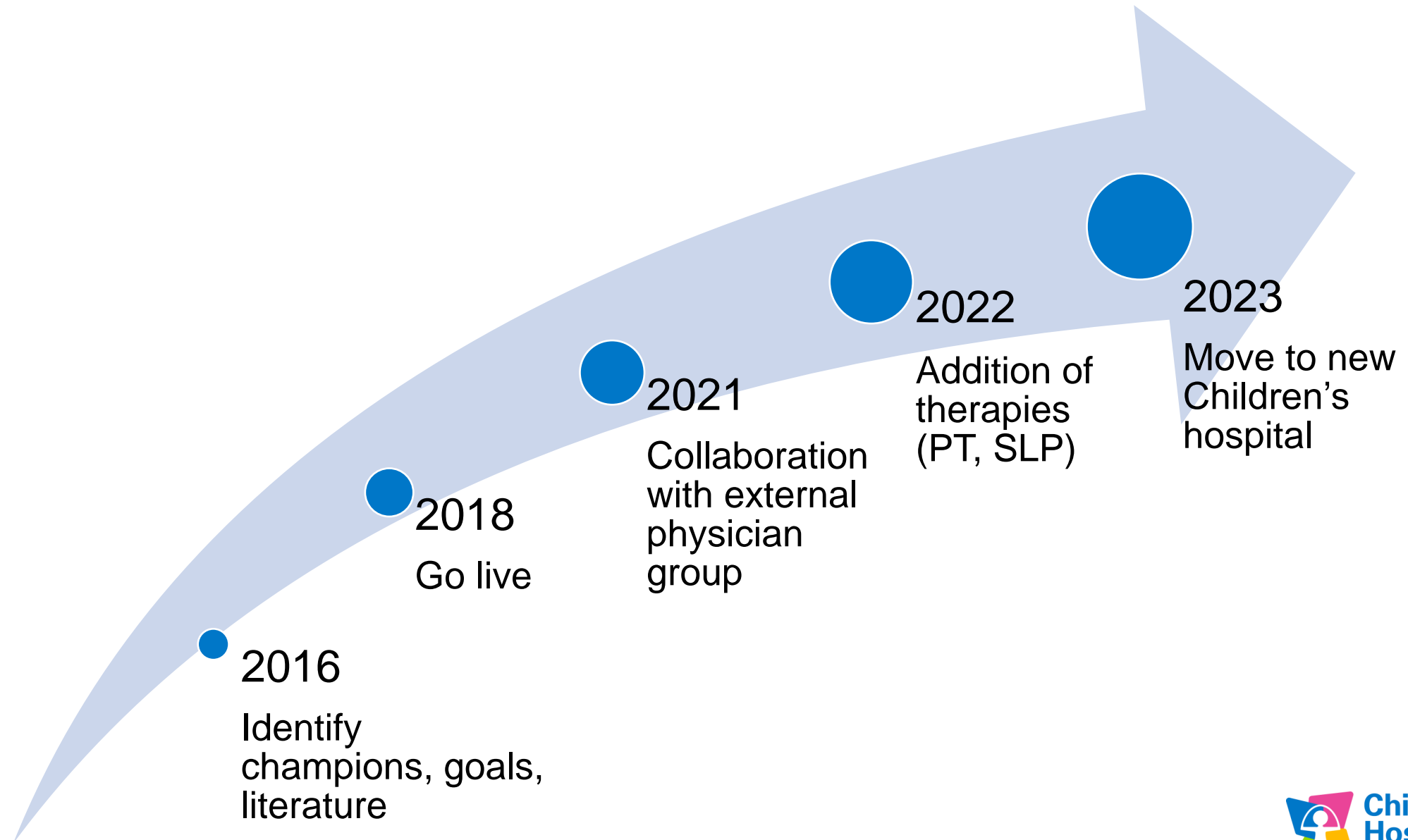


# Becoming a ~~Primary Stroke Center~~ Pediatric Stroke Center

# My Why

# Overall timeline of our journey



# Pediatric stroke champions to pediatric stroke stakeholders

<b>Champions:</b> Dr. Duane Williams	PICU intensivist
Dr. Larry Morton	Child neurology
Dr. Warren Felton	Vascular neurology, stroke expert
Lorie Selleck	RN extraordinaire—stroke expert, peds, QA
Stacie Stevens	Stroke Program Coordinator
Jill McGehee	PICU Nurse Clinician
Dr. Ewa Way	Child neurology resident/fellow
Dr. Rashida Woods	Pediatric Emergency Medicine

# Team to date

Peds ED physician

Peds ED RN

Neurosurgery

Endovascular interventionalist

PICU intensivist MD

PICU RN

Directors, C-suite

Pharmacy Peds

Pharmacy Adult

Child Neurology

Stroke specialist

Stroke Coordinator

PT

Speech

Neuroradiology –child

ED radiology (emergency,  
weekends, holidays, onsite-  
speed critical)

EMS –pre hospital notification

Comm room,  
telecommunications-build  
another alert system—who's on  
it

Pathology

Hematology

Acute care peds unit

Marketing-awareness

CT Techs

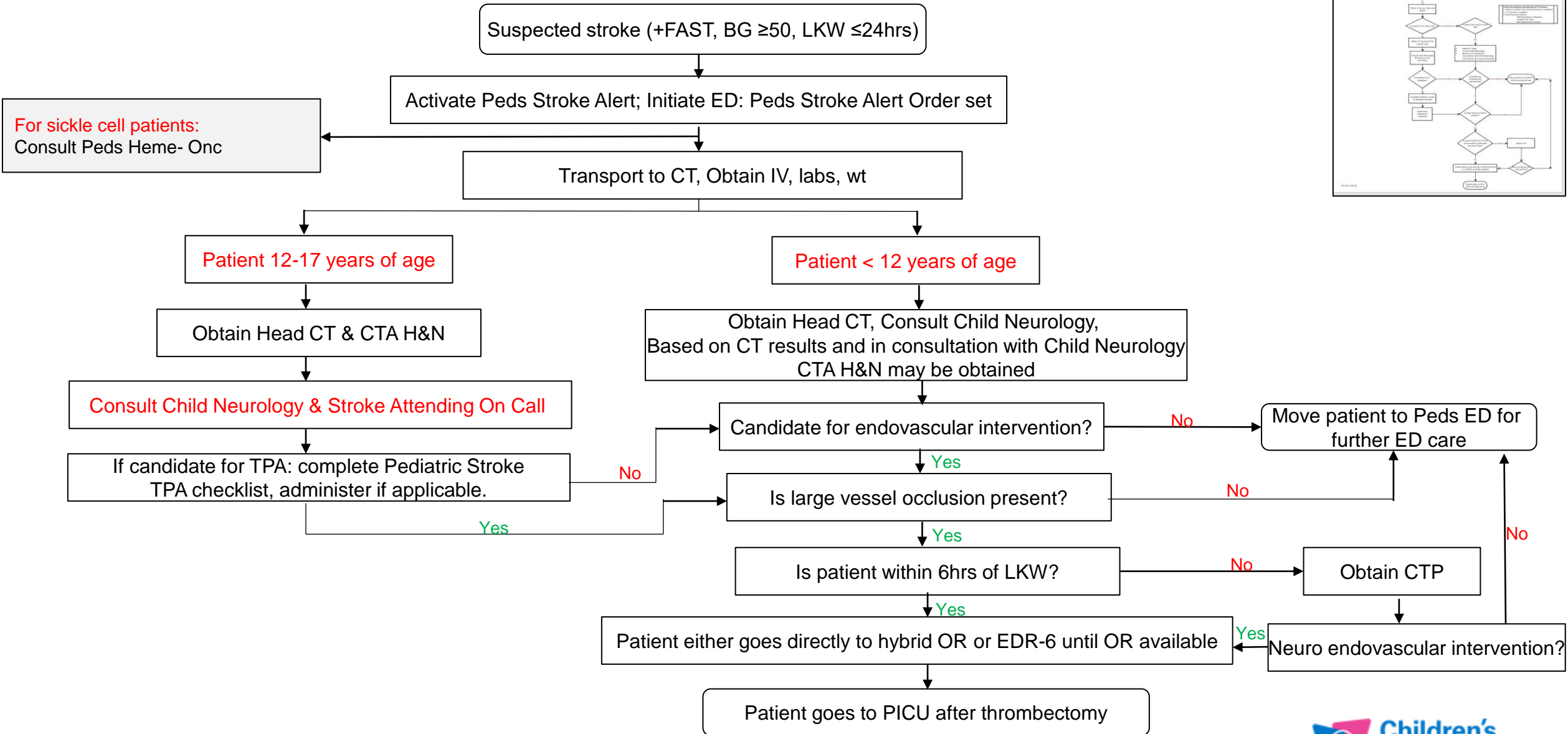
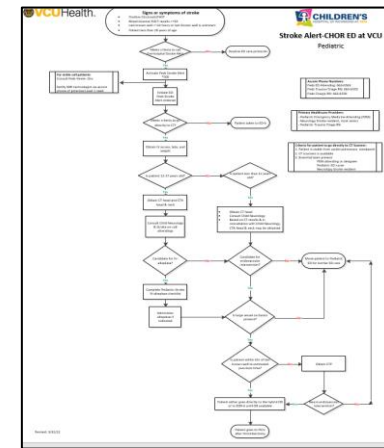
ED medics

Adult ED MD

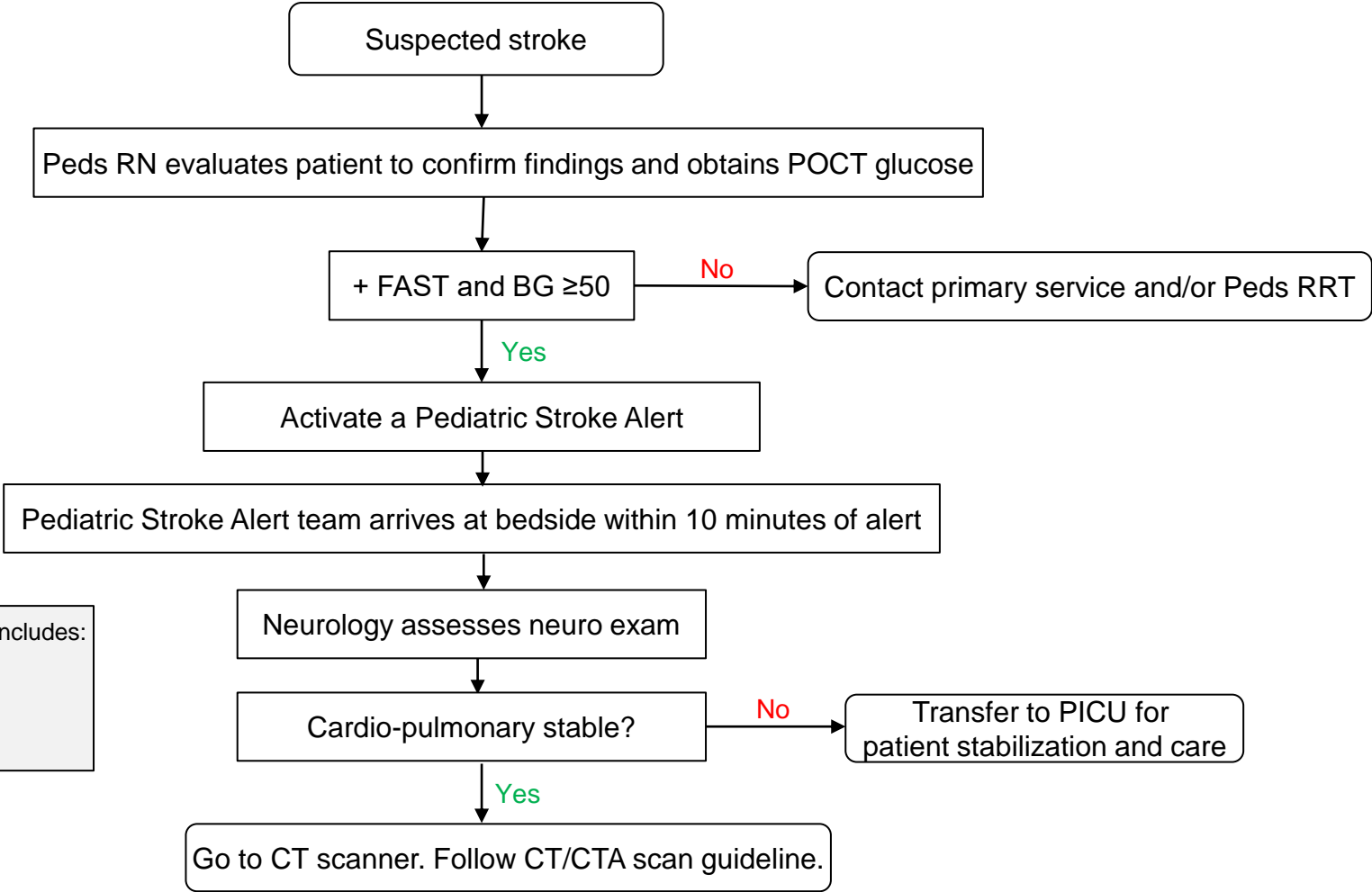
Adult ED RN

IT-build order sets, CT orders

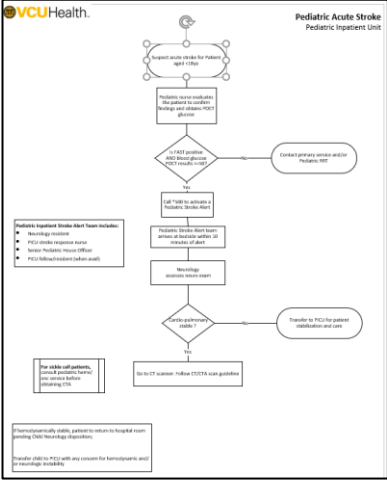
# Stroke Alert - CHoR Pediatric ED



# VCU Stroke Alert – Inpatient Pediatric



- Pediatric Inpatient Stroke Alert Team includes:
- Neurologist
  - PICU stroke response nurse (RRT)
  - PICU intensivist
  - PICU fellow/resident (when avail)

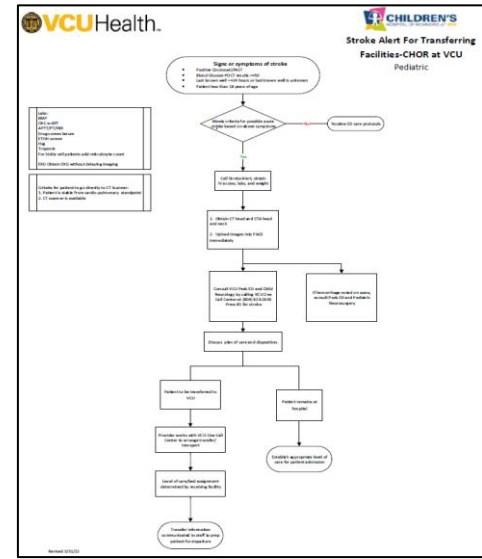
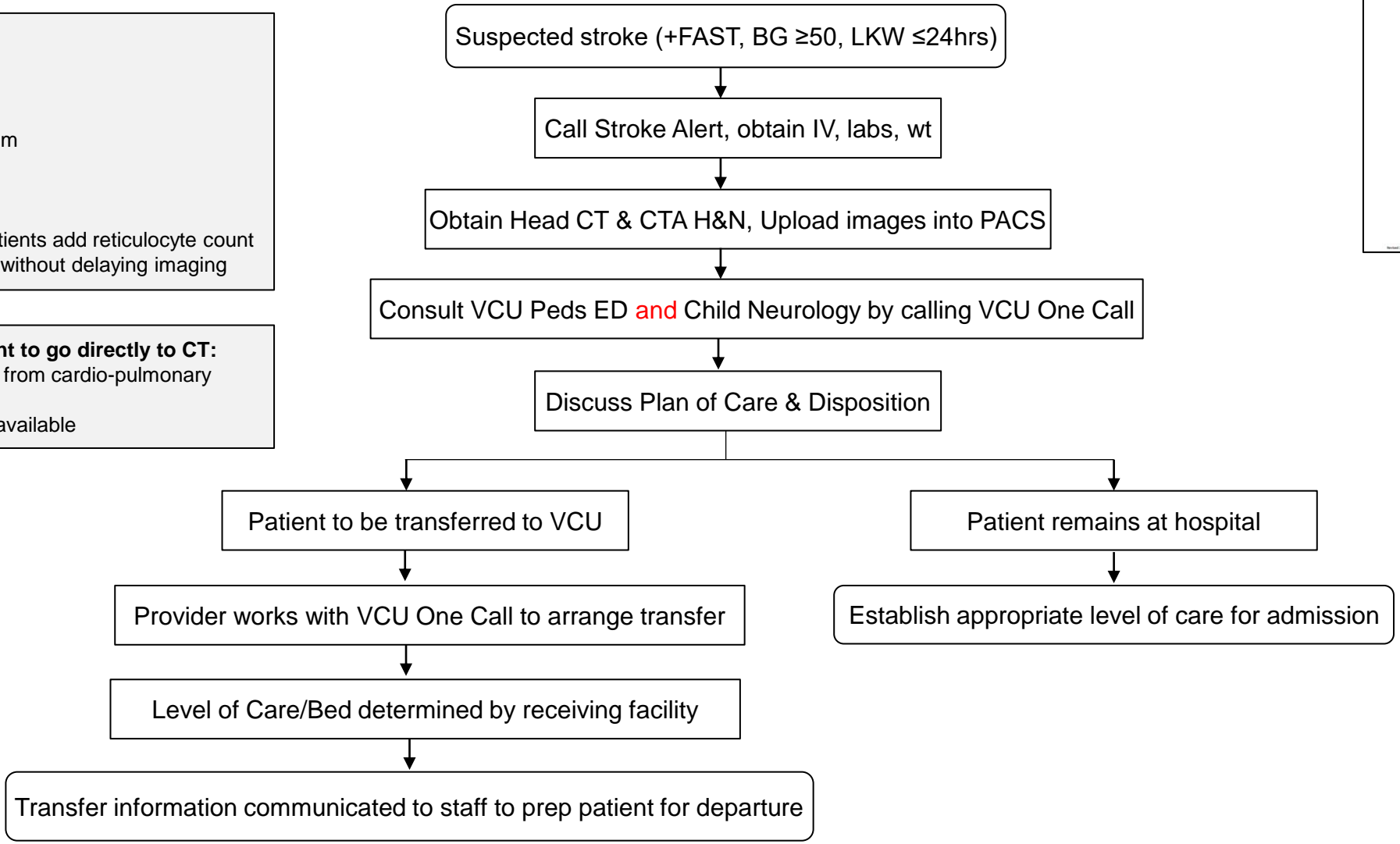


# Stroke Alert for Transferring Facilities

## Pediatric (less than 18yrs of age)

**Labs:**  
 BMP  
 CBC w diff  
 APTT/PT/INR  
 Drug Screen Serum  
 ETOH Screen  
 Hcg  
 Troponin  
 For Sickle Cell patients add reticulocyte count  
 EKG Obtain EKG without delaying imaging

**Criteria for patient to go directly to CT:**  
 1. Patient is stable from cardio-pulmonary standpoint  
 2. CT Scanner is available





# Next steps

- Build MRI protocol and order set
- Create and implement a Pediatric Stroke Protocol starting with ODEMSA



Protocol  
3-5

**SECTION:** Pediatric General Medical Emergencies

**PROTOCOL TITLE:** Medical – Stroke/TIA

**REVISED:** 11/2022

**OVERVIEW:**

Pediatric stroke (age > 30 days) is a top 10 leading cause of disability and death in the U.S. There are two main mechanisms of stroke: (1) Blood vessel occlusion and (2) Blood vessel rupture. About 55% of pediatric strokes are ischemic. Ischemic strokes are most often caused by large vessel thrombosis or stenosis, although embolism or hypoperfusion can cause them. Hemorrhagic strokes are divided into intracerebral (ICH) and subarachnoid (SAH) hemorrhages. Causes of stroke include abnormal arteries in patients with sickle cell anemia or Down Syndrome, cardiac disease, vessel dissection (such as from a trauma), and infectious diseases. Risk factors for ICH include heart disease, brain tumors, and vascular anomalies. Signs and symptoms of stroke will vary depending on which area of the brain is being inadequately perfused.

In children, mimics of strokes occur more frequently than stroke, about 50-90% of focal neurological deficits are mimics. However, if you don't consider that your pediatric patient could be having a stroke, you will miss it.

PMHx	Signs and Symptoms within 24 hours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abnormal arteries of the brain</li> <li>• Cardiac disease</li> <li>• Clotting disorders</li> <li>• Sickle Cell</li> <li>• Acute infections</li> <li>• New onset seizure</li> <li>• Head and neck trauma</li> <li>• Lupus</li> <li>• Kawasaki disease</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focal weakness or paralysis</li> <li>• Blindness or other sensory loss</li> <li>• Aphasia</li> <li>• Ataxia</li> </ul> <p>IN ADDITION, may have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Altered mental status</li> <li>• Vertigo, dizziness</li> <li>• Vomiting</li> <li>• New onset headache</li> <li>• New onset seizures</li> </ul>

STROKE

	EMR	EMT	A	I	P
1. Perform general patient management.	•	•	•	•	•
2. Support life-threatening problems associated with airway, breathing, and circulation. <i>Be alert for aspiration, upper airway obstruction and hypoventilation.</i>	•	•	•	•	•
3. Administer oxygen to maintain $SPO_2$ 94 - 99%. Support respirations as necessary with a BVM.	•	•	•	•	•



Opening April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# First steps

## Objective:

Provide evidence-based acute stroke care management, supportive care, prevention of complications and secondary stroke prevention in the pediatric population

## Process:

Literature search, resources (other institutes, colleagues, ISC)

Identifying patient population.  
Different diagnosis codes

Include sickle cell patients  
Add Hematology

Lowered minimal age overtime.  
Does not include in utero or neonates



# Obstacles:

Executive leadership approval

Legality / push back

ITPA (alteplase) is not FDA approved

Lack of robust evidence

Scope of practice

Staff education, competencies. Low volume, high risk

Bed assignment: Adult vs Peds ED, NSICU vs PICU

Create and maintain patient database.

Agree upon metrics

Create process for screening patients less than 14yo.

CT vs MRI

Radiation exposure

TPA vs TNK

Lack of IT resources

Build pediatric stroke specific EMR tools

- Order sets for Peds Stroke Alert, AIS, Hemorrhagic stroke, thrombolysis, thrombectomy, PICU admission, sickle cell subset
- Pediatric TPA checklist, TPA order

Transfer center- pediatric-specific protocols

Create pediatric stroke pager group

