

# Stroke Smart Medical Practice

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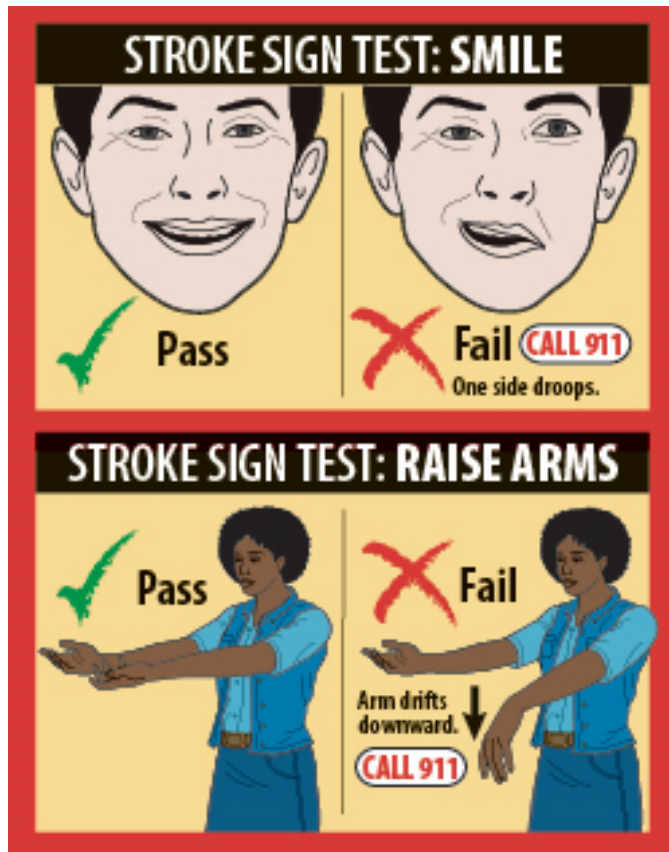
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# Stroke Smart – Objective

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Reduce pre-hospital delay and increase timely treatment

*Little to no progress has been made here!*

# Today's Objectives:

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- Review **Stroke Smart Medical Practice (SSMP)** pilot initiative
- Gain your backing (vote) as we move forward

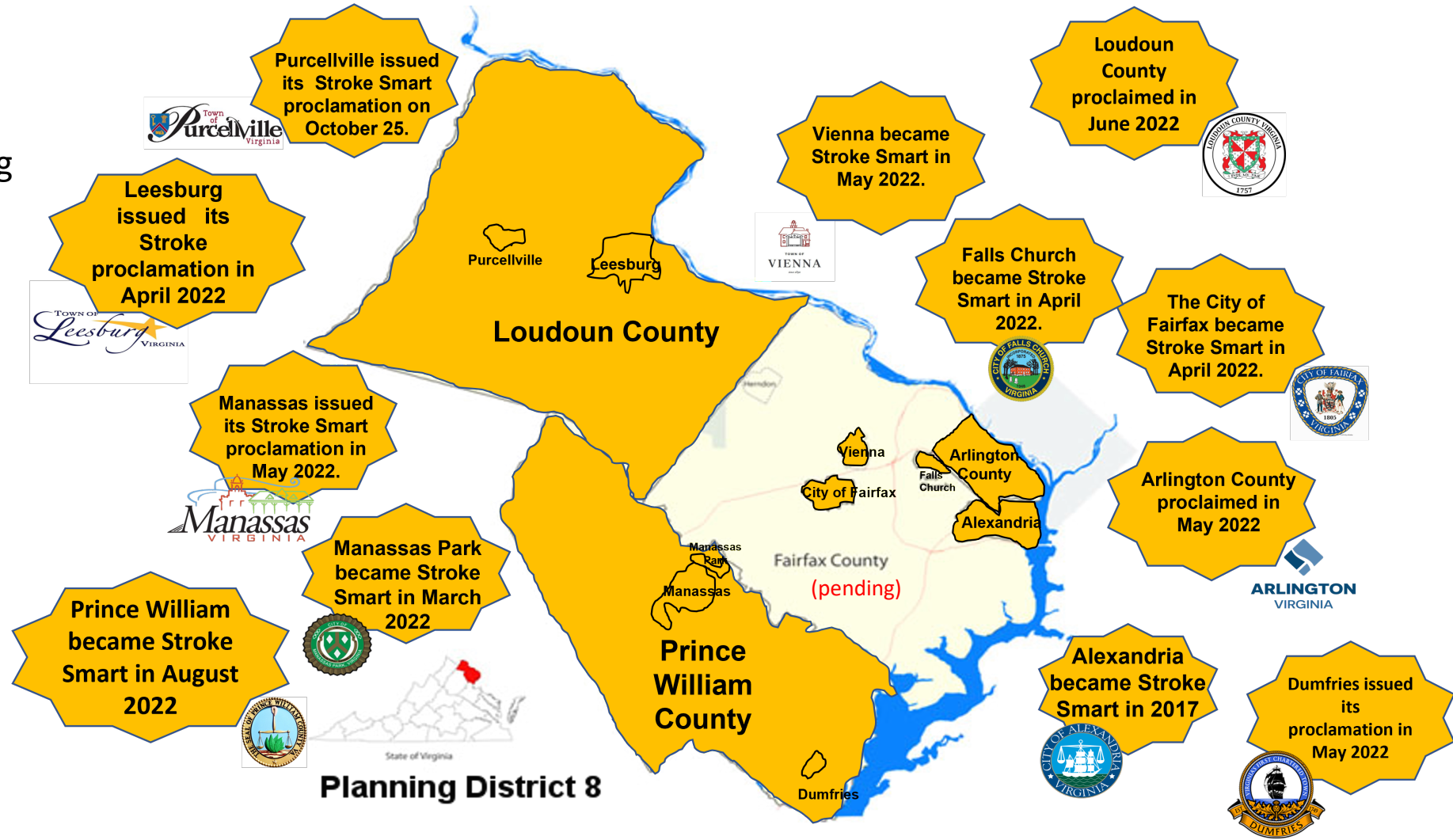
# History of Stroke Smart



# Focus has been on cities and counties

**Also Stroke Smart:**  
City of Fredericksburg

**In Progress:**  
Fairfax County  
Stafford County  
Richmond City

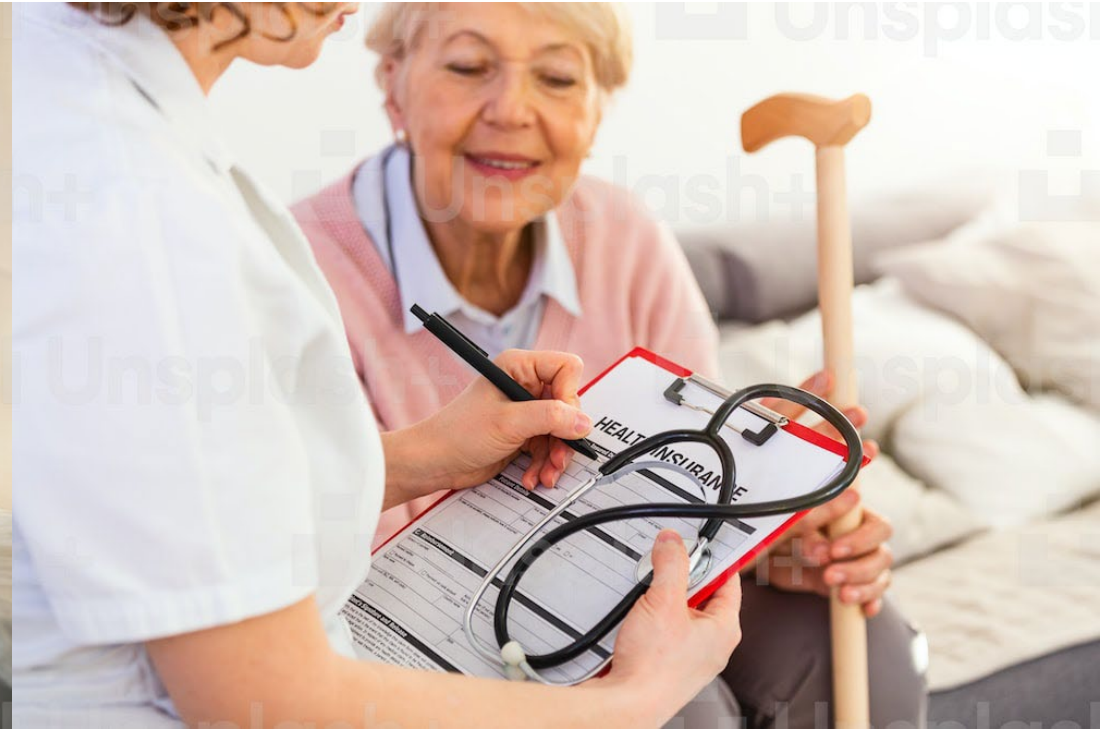


**Planning District 8**

# Next area of focus: Medical Practices & Primary Care Physicians



# Why Primary Care Focus?





1. 80% of population see a medical professional annually; if high risk, even greater frequency
2. Patients trust their doctors
3. When in a doctor's office, people are ready to receive medical information
4. Patient attention is focused (vs. multitasking, phone distractions, etc.)



# Problem 1: Pre-hospital delay linked to primary care facility

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Studies suggest, 1/3 of the time people **call their primary care physician first**

If a patient is given appointment and comes into office, **odds of pre-hospital delay are quadrupled**

Source: “Reasons for Prehospital Delay in Acute Ischemic Stroke”; Journal of the American Heart Association, September 12, 2019

**Goal 1:** Don't schedule appointments for people having a stroke; instead instruct them to call 9-1-1

# Proposed Intervention:

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1. Train all office staff to spot strokes and follow the practice protocol if a stroke is suspected (annually)
  - reinforce with posters in staff areas
2. Incorporate script in voicemail to spot strokes and instruct to call 911 (*suggested*)
  - when office is closed
  - when lines are busy



# Problem: Public isn't Stroke Smart

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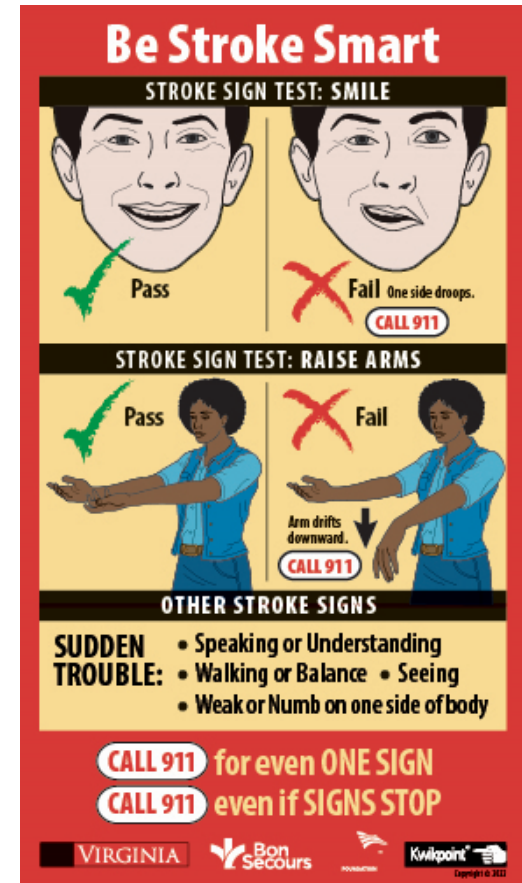
- ~10% get treatment
- 70%- 80% of stroke patients don't arrive in time for treatment because they didn't call 9-1-1

**Goal 2:** Provide effective education on stroke signs and actions to take

# Proposed Intervention:

## 3. General education for all patients (waiting areas)

- Posters on walls
- Availability of wallet cards & magnets to take home
- PSA video on screens if available in waiting area, telehealth holds, downloadable QR code-- *suggested*
- Stroke Smart information on practice website, in newsletters and other communication vehicles-- *suggested*



# Proposed Intervention cont'd:

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## 4. Identify and educate high risk stroke patients (exam room)

- o Clinical staff would identify patients at high risk
  - Walk them through Stroke Smart education
  - Stress importance of calling 911
  - Encourage retention of memory aids and sharing with loved ones

# Measure Effectiveness

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## 5. Track Office Metrics (short term)

Track basic metrics in office to understand reach and effectiveness

*Suggested:*

- a. amount of material distributed
- b. number of high-risk patients educated
- c. number of staff trained
- d. number of patients referred to 911 after contacting practice

# Measure Effectiveness

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## VDH Stroke Registry (long term)

- Treatment Ratio
- Last Known Well (LKW) to ED
- ED Arrivals via 9-1-1

# How has SSMP been developed?





- a. Piloting with hospitals (Bon Secours, VCU, Mary Washington)
- b. Work with VDH (Patrick Wiggins – Principal Investigator)
- c. Survey – in progress with independent physician offices
- d. NOVA EMS Council
- e. Other interviews with PCP's, NPs, stroke nurses, neuroscience professionals



Mary Washington Healthcare



# Stroke Smart Medical Practice Elements

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1. Provide *Stroke Smart* education for all patients (waiting areas)  
*Examples: wallet cards, magnets, posters, PSA videos (suggested)*
2. Identify high risk patients and provide *Stroke Smart* education
3. Train all office staff to spot strokes and follow the practice protocol if a stroke is suspected (*suggested minimum: annually*)
4. Track office metrics on practice *Stroke Smart* effectiveness
5. Incorporate *Stroke Smart* script in voicemail to spot and instruct calling 9-1-1 (*suggested*)

# What's Next?

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1. Receive approval from VSSTF on Stroke Smart Medical Practice pilot criteria
2. Continue pilot and obtain feedback on elements, effectiveness, buy-in
3. Develop a “certification” to support Stroke Smart Medical Practice adoption
4. Continue to raise awareness and scale program

# Questions?

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# VOTE - Stroke Smart Medical Practice Elements

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1. Provide *Stroke Smart* education for all patients (waiting areas)  
*Examples: wallet cards, magnets, posters, PSA videos (suggested)*
2. Identify high risk patients and provide *Stroke Smart* education
3. Train all office staff to spot strokes and follow the practice protocol if a stroke is suspected (*suggested minimum: annually*)
4. Track office metrics on practice *Stroke Smart* effectiveness
5. Incorporate *Stroke Smart* script in voicemail to spot and instruct calling 9-1-1 (*suggested*)

# How to help?

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Help us grow the program through survey and piloting practices

Email: [Foundation@msv.org](mailto:Foundation@msv.org)