

Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Rapid Access TIA/Minor Stroke Service Referral Form for Community Optometry

How do I refer to the TIA Clinic?

- Call the Stroke Assessment Nurse (SAN) on **01924 543017**. This service runs 24hrs a day on 7 days
- Be prepared to give the information in the attached referral form – dates & times are important
- **Make sure you have a contact phone number for the patient – preferably a mobile**
- Complete the attached referral form and fax it as directed by the SAN

Who should be referred?

- 1) Patients with sudden onset symptoms that you suspect have a vascular origin which have completely resolved (i.e. patient is back to normal)
 - **High stroke risk (ABCD2 score 4-7, or 2 or more events in the last 7 days):** Patients should be seen in the rapid access TIA Clinic the same day or first working day
 - **Low stroke risk (ABCD2 score 0-3):** Patients should be seen in the rapid access TIA clinic within the next few days
- 2) You can also call the SANs for advice on patients where you are unsure about the symptoms, e.g. where these have not resolved.

Who should not be referred?

- Patients with gradual onset of symptoms, generalised weakness, funny turns, dizzy spells or collapse/loss of consciousness without focal neurological signs or symptoms. These are not usually indicative of stroke or TIA. These patients should be referred to their GP

What is the ABCD2 Score and how is it calculated?

- The ABCD2 Score is an indicator of the risk of a major/disabling stroke in the days and weeks following a TIA. You will need to calculate this in order to advise patients when they might be seen
- Circle **one** number on each line on the referral form overleaf and add them up to give the total score
- **N.B.** The full ABCD2 score requires a blood pressure reading taken at the time of scoring. If you do not have access to a sphygmomanometer, then record all the other elements and leave this one blank.

What happens at the TIA Clinic?

- Patients will be seen by a consultant with an interest in stroke care
- Some patients will be referred for carotid duplex scanning, often on the same day as they go to the clinic
- Some patients will be referred for brain imaging
- All patients will be given secondary prevention advice/treatment and referral for carotid endarterectomy where appropriate
- Patients should be prepared to spend up to 5 hours at the hospital

Please complete the attached referral form to refer to the outpatient TIA service

Please ensure high risk patients are given an appointment (by the SAN) before they leave your Practice

Remember to give the patient the Patient Information Leaflet before they leave you

PLEASE TELL PATIENTS NOT TO DRIVE UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN SEEN AT THE TIA CLINIC

Optometrist Referral for Suspected Transient Ischaemic Attack or Minor Stroke

Date & time patient presented:	dd	mm	yyyy	00	00	Referrer Details (including phone number)
Date & time of referral:	dd	mm	yyyy	00	00	
Patients name and address:						GP Name and Practice
Telephone Number:						

Clinical Features

Date of onset: **Number of attacks:**

ABCD2 Score Score with BP: Score without BP:

Description of symptoms leading to referral including side, and speed of onset, duration:

Circle one score from each line below and put the total in the box above

A	Age	over 60 years old	1	under 60 years old	0		
	B	Blood pressure	greater than 140/90 systolic <i>or</i> diastolic	1	less than 140/90 systolic <i>and</i> diastolic	0	
C			Clinical features	unilateral weakness with or without speech disturbance	2	speech disturbance with NO unilateral weakness	1
	D	Duration of symptoms		1 hour or more	2	10 to 59 minutes	1
D			Diabetes mellitus	yes	1	no	0

Referral checklist:

1. DVLA driving rules discussed : Yes No (non-driver)
(Patient should not drive for 28 days after the event)

2. Given patient the Patient Information Leaflet

Transient Ischaemic Attack – Referral pathway

