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ISSUE: Reducing mortality and morbidity associated with post-stroke aspiration pneumonia

OBJECTIVE: Develop and institute a post-stroke aspiration pneumonia prevention protocol for the U Kentucky Stroke Unit

Impact on Neurology: improve stroke patient care and outcome

ACTIONS: 

1. Initial information gathering (literature search, key contact people)
2. Develop protocol based on available research
3. Meet with Stroke Unit staff
4. Attach protocol to computer order sets for residents

TARGET AUDIENCES:

1. Stroke attendings
2. Neurology residents and rotating interns
3. Stroke Unit nursing and support staff
4. Patients and families

RESOURCES:

1. Stroke attendings
2. Stroke Unit staff, nurse manager
3. PubMed
4. U Kentucky computer support staff

SUCCESS MEASURES:

1. Presentation at stroke meeting
2. Inclusion of protocol on computer order sets
3. Reduction in incidence of post-stroke pneumonia
4. Improved outcomes for stroke patients

TARGET DATES:

1. Presentation – Jan '07
2. Computer order sets – Feb '07
3. Data analyzed for improved outcomes – Spring '08