

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria for rtPA Therapy

Inclusion Criteria

Age \geq 18 years, clinical diagnosis of ischemic stroke and a measurable neurologic deficit, and time of symptom onset well established to be <180 minutes before start of possible treatment

Exclusion Criteria

Evidence of intracranial hemorrhage on pretreatment CT

Minor or rapidly improving stroke symptoms

Clinical presentation suggestive of SAH, even with normal CT

Active internal bleeding

Known bleeding diathesis:

→platelet count <100,000 cells/mm³

→heparin treatment last 48 hours, with elevated aPTT

→current use of oral anticoagulants or recent use, with elevated PT >15 s

Major surgery or serious trauma, excluding head trauma, in the previous 14 days

Intracranial surgery, serious head trauma, or previous stroke within 3 months.

History of gastrointestinal or urinary tract hemorrhage within 21 days

Recent arterial puncture at a noncompressible site

Recent lumbar puncture

Need for aggressive treatment to decrease blood pressure to <185 mm Hg systolic or <110 mm Hg diastolic

History of intracranial hemorrhage

Abnormal blood glucose (<50 or >400 mg/dL)

Post–myocardial infarction pericarditis

Seizure at stroke onset

Known AVM or aneurysm

AVM = arteriovenous malformation; CT = computed tomography; PT = plasma thromboplastin.

Table from *Physicians Information and Education Resource (PIER), Stroke and Transient Ischemic Attack* module.