



OSF HealthCare Now Using iRapid Software for Diagnosing and Treating Stroke Patients

For Immediate Release

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(Peoria, IL | May 24, 2018) – People who have suffered a stroke will benefit from new diagnostic software now being offered at OSF HealthCare hospitals in Bloomington, Peoria, and Rockford, Illinois.

Recently published medical guidelines show there is an expanded window of treatment opportunity for stroke patients who could benefit from mechanical thrombectomy (physical removal of a blood clot inside an artery or vein). Stroke specialists stress that it is important to seek care as quickly as possible, but new research shows patients can present up to 24 hours after stroke symptoms begin, rather than the previously accepted 6-hour window, and still benefit. This includes patients who may have a wake-up stroke and not know when symptoms began.

The iRapid software uses noninvasive CT imaging of the head that takes less than a minute to complete. It looks at cerebral blood flow and volume to determine salvageable brain tissue. iRapid then provides the necessary data via secure smart device to radiologists and neurologists for instant viewing to enable them to make a more timely decision.

“iRapid helps us determine who is going to benefit best,” said Ajeet Gordhan, MD, Interventional Radiologist with OSF HealthCare St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington. “The idea behind this is to give them a functional outcome and that’s the key. We are trying to rescue salvageable brain in patients who, in the past, may not have had that opportunity and although they might still have a deficit, the deficit may be not as profound and they may be able to attain some level of functional capability.”

Previously, data obtained through CT scans had to be manually calculated and entered. The iRapid software increases the accuracy and timeliness of the data, enabling physicians to more quickly determine who will – or won’t – benefit from having a thrombectomy.

When it comes to stroke, time matters because proper and timely treatment saves brain tissue. 1.9 million brain cells are lost each minute a stroke is left untreated.

“You need to still come in early, calling 9-1-1, not driving yourself, those are the cornerstone aspects of initial stroke management when it comes to the initial paradigm, explains Dr. Gordhan. “This is where iRapid and physiologic imaging comes through – is in patients who have a wake up stroke or patients who come in beyond the six hour window, or if it’s a disparate clinical scenario versus what we see on imaging.”

The iRapid software is setting the standard for improving stroke care, with more than 350 stroke centers using it worldwide. iRapid is in use at the Comprehensive Stroke Centers at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria and OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony Medical Center in Rockford, in addition to the stroke team using it at OSF St. Joseph’s in Bloomington.

Learn more about the symptoms and treatment of stroke [here](#).

Additional media resources for this story can be found on the OSF HealthCare Newsroom.