Acute stroke care is rapidly evolving and EMS play a critical role in clinical outcomes. Prehospital management and assessment is crucial more than ever. Historically, EMS providers have received little to no feedback regarding patient outcomes. An EMS stroke feedback tool was created at our hospital to share key information. The purpose of this tool is to increase communication with our local EMS, improve knowledge of stroke care interventions and increase EMS awareness of their impact on patient outcomes.

This tool provides prehospital data points as well as patient outcomes, all on one form. Data is collected concurrently by the Stroke Data Coordinator and sent to the EMS liaison for distribution to their team. The average turn around time is 1-2 weeks. Variables collected and entered on the feedback tool include: RACE Score, blood glucose, IV initiated, prehospital notification, admission and discharge NIHSS, timeline during hospitalization (i.e. tPA door to needle times) and discharge disposition.

A sample survey (n=40) was sent to our largest local EMS agency to determine EMS provider satisfaction with this new tool. 97.5% (n=39) of the EMS providers surveyed, agreed providing feedback to EMS assists in driving better practices and improving patient outcomes. 90% (n=36) of EMS providers strongly agreed feedback is appreciated on stroke patient outcomes. 92.5% (n=37) of EMS providers agreed this feedback tool provides data in a clear and concise format. Of the 7.5% (n=3) of providers who did not agree, all offered feedback how to make the tool more impactful.

In conclusion, most EMS providers surveyed collectively agree the EMS stroke feedback tool is an excellent starting point towards improving communication between hospitals and EMS regarding key prehospital care and impact on patient outcomes. Survey results were communicated and shared with our local EMS agency. Additionally, this tool will be used to drive recognition of EMS providers that successfully perform key initiatives.