

Hyper-acute Stroke Unit (HASU)

Patient and family information guide



What is HASU?

King's College Hospital has one of only nine Hyper-acute Stroke Units (HASUs) in London. These specialised units bring together experts and advanced equipment under one roof to provide world-class stroke treatment 24 hours a day.

Our HASU serves acute stroke patients from across South London and offers:

- **Clot-busting treatment** (thrombolysis)
- **Mechanical Thrombectomy** (mechanical clot removal)
- **Intensive monitoring and physiological intervention**

When you arrive at our HASU, our primary goal is to determine if you can safely return home. Our multidisciplinary team will:

- Assess your condition and needs
- Determine what support you might need at home
- Plan any ongoing therapy required for your recovery (such as visits from community therapists).

If you need further hospital care

Some patients require additional care and cannot go directly home from the HASU.

In these cases:

1. **For local patients:** You may transfer to our Acute Stroke Unit (ASU) for continued care.
2. **For non-local patients:** You will be transferred to the ASU nearest your home.

Transfer to an Acute Stroke Unit (ASU)

When does the transfer happen?

Once our team determines you need ongoing hospital care, we will refer you to the appropriate ASU.

Transfer timing depends on:

- Bed availability at the receiving unit
- Your medical stability for transfer

Transfer may occur within a day of arrival or later in your recovery

What happens during transfer?

We ensure a seamless transition of care. This includes:

- Comprehensive medical summary
- Detailed nursing notes
- Therapy assessments and recommendations
- Copies of all hospital records.

What to expect at the receiving ASU

The ASU provides:

- Regular timetabled rehabilitation programs
- Intensive therapy crucial for stroke recovery
- Continued specialised stroke care.

When you arrive at your ASU, the team there will have complete knowledge of your care to date.

Contact information

King's College Hospital HASU

Denmark Hill, SE5 9RS

Stroke Pathway Coordinator - Claire Golding

Tel: 020 3299 3913

For urgent concerns, please speak to the nurse in charge.

MyChart

Our MyChart app and website lets you securely access parts of your health record with us, giving you more control over your care. To sign up or for help, call us on **020 3299 4618** or email

kings.mychart@nhs.net. Visit **www.kch.nhs.uk/mychart** to find out more.

Sharing your information

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has partnered with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust through the King's Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre. We are working together to give our patients the best possible care, so you might find we invite you for appointments at Guy's or St Thomas' hospitals. King's College Hospital and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trusts share an electronic patient record system, which means information about your health record can be accessed safely and securely by health and care staff at both Trusts. For more information visit **www.kch.nhs.uk**.

Care provided by students

We provide clinical training where our students get practical experience by treating patients. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you do not want students to be involved in your care. Your treatment will not be affected by your decision.

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams.

Tel: **020 3299 4618**

Email: **kings.pals@nhs.net**

If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Interpreting and Accessible Communication Support on 020 3299 4618 or email **kings.access@nhs.net**

www.kch.nhs.uk