

Points of In-Hospital Delays in Thrombolytic Therapy among Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke: A Single Center 5-Year Retrospective Study

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BACKGROUND AND AIMS
Stroke is a neurologic emergency causing mortality and disability. Intravenous rTPA is the approved therapy for acute ischemic stroke when given within the time window. As thrombolysis is time-sensitive, guidelines have recommended in-hospital evaluation time benchmarks. This study aims to identify the in-hospital delays of thrombolytic therapy in a tertiary healthcare facility in the Philippines. Additionally, this study aims to determine the clinical outcomes of patients who received rTPA using the Modified Rankin Scale (MRS).
METHOD
A retrospective review of 42 patient records that received thrombolysis from 2014 to 2018 was done to determine the different time intervals. The primary outcome is the average time of thrombolysis. Secondary outcomes were the causes of the delays and the clinical outcomes of the patients who received thrombolysis.
RESULTS
Among the 42 patients, only 1 received rTPA within sixty minutes from arrival. The average time for thrombolysis was 139 minutes. In-hospital delays occurred downstream from time to neuroimaging. Identified causes of delays were the facilitation of supportive procedures and securing consent. One patient who received rTPA within 60 minutes had a discharge MRS 4; two patients had MRS 6, and the remainder of the patients had MRS 0-2 (47.61%), and MRS 3-5 (45.24%).
CONCLUSION
This study showed delays in thrombolysis. Securing consent for thrombolysis significantly caused delays and the facilitation of supportive procedures took precedence over the IV-rTPA infusion. Administration of thrombolysis within 60 minutes did not show any difference in the clinical outcomes of those who received the same intervention beyond 60 minutes of arrival at the hospital.

Biography
Glenn Anthony Constantino has completed his MD at the age of 26 years from University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philppines. He is currently undergoing residency training in Neurology at The Medical City hospital located in Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines. His fields of interest include Stroke and Vascular Neurology as well Pain Medicine.

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