

# ACCIDENTE VASCULARE CEREBRALE STROKE MANAGEMENT

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European Stroke Initiative  
Recommendations 2003

**EUSI**

**Ischaemic Stroke**

**Prophylaxis and Treatment**  
Information for doctors in hospitals and practice

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EUSI (The European Stroke Initiative)

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## ETIOLOGIE

- LEZIUNI ATEROSCLEROTICE ȘI ATEROTROMBOTICE la nivelul arterelor cerebrale bazale cu lumen larg sau vaselor cervicale extracraniene cu hipoperfuzie critică distal de stenozele strânse
- Emboli arterioarteriali din leziuni aterotrombotice cu ocluzia vaselor intracraniene
- Emboli sistemice: surse cardiace: valve protezate, fibrilație atrială, trombi cardiaci, cardiomiopatie dilatativă, infarct miocardic recent, șunt intracardiac
- Lipohialinoză a vaselor mici cu leziuni lacunare microangiopatice
- Rar: disecția arterei cervicale, vasculite, tromboze în cadrul unor arteriopatii

## DEFINIȚIE

- DEFICIT NEUROLOGIC BRUSC INSTALAT DE NATURĂ ISCHEMICĂ SAU HEMORAGICĂ**

## Cerebral ischemia: focal vs. global

|             | Focal   | Global                      |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Model       | MCA occlusion   | Forebrain ischemia          |
| Mimics      | Stroke  | Cardiac arrest              |
| Blood flow  | ↓   | ↓↓↓                         |
| Time Course | Sustained (4-8 hours)   | Transient (60 minutes)      |
| Pathology   | Densely ischemic central core with penumbral zone, salvageable up to 1 hour | Selective neuronal necrosis |

Morphology

Infarction

Inflammation and apoptosis

Biochemistry

Ionic failure

Anoxic depolarization

Glucose use ↓

Glutamate release

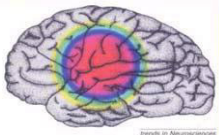
Glucose use ↑

Protein synthesis ↓

Acidosis

Oxygen extraction ↑

Selective gene expression



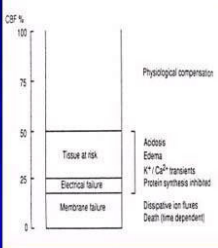
Source: In Neurosciences

## EPIDEMIOLOGIE

- A treia cauză de deces în țările industrializate
- Europa : 63,5- 273 decese/ 100000 locuitori
- Cea mai importantă cauză de morbiditate și dizabilitate pe termen lung în Europa
- Impact economic deosebit asupra societății, familiei și bolnavului
- Incidență: 100-200 AVC noi/ 100000 locuitori/an-Europa

## Critical cerebral blood flow thresholds

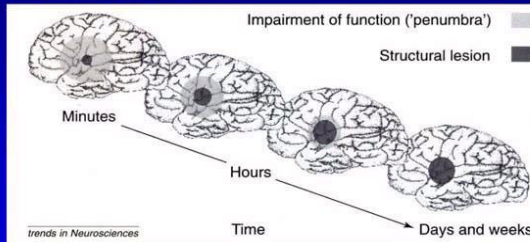
|  | Blood flow (ml/100g/min) |
|--|--------------------------|
| Normal                                       | 20-25                    |
| Electrical activity (spontaneous and evoked) | 16-18                    |
| Acidosis, edema, ↓ protein synthesis         | >10-12                   |
| Ion homeostasis                              | 10-12                    |
| Energy homeostasis                           | 10-12                    |
| Infarction                                   |                          |
| Transient ischemia (1-3 hours)               | 10-12                    |
| Irreversible ischemia                        | 17-18                    |



## Penumbra

9/25

- Zone of reversible impairment; window of opportunity
- Residual electrical activity and receptor activation amenable to blockade



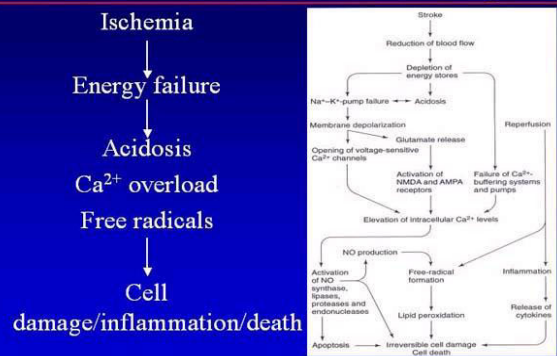
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## MANAGEMENTUL AVC ACUT

- CONFIRMAREA DIAGNOSTICULUI PENTRU DECIZII TERAPEUTICE OPTIME ȘI RAPIDE
- Tratatamentul condițiilor generale care influențează prognosticul funcțional pe termen lung: TA, glicemie, temperatură
- Terapii specifice care se adresează aspectelor particulare de patogeneză: recanalizarea unui vas ocluzionat, prevenția mecanismelor care conduc la moartea neuronală (neuroprotecție)
- Profilaxia și tratamentul complicațiilor medicale sau neurologice
- Profilaxia recurențelor precoce
- Debut rapid al recuperării neuromotorii

## Mechanisms of ischemic brain damage

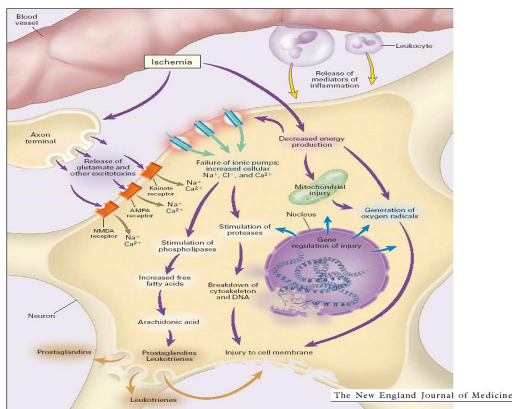
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Cerebrovasc Dis 2003;16:311-337

### Recommendations

- 1 Stroke patients should be treated in stroke units (level I). Therefore, suspected stroke victims should be transported without delay to the nearest medical centre with an available stroke unit, or to a hospital providing organised acute stroke care if a stroke unit is not available.
- 2 Once stroke symptoms are suspected, patients or their proxies should call the EMS or a similar system (level III).
- 3 Patients with subarachnoid haemorrhage should be referred urgently to a centre with facilities for neurosurgical treatment, neuroradiological interventions and neurointensive care (level I).



The New England Journal of Medicine

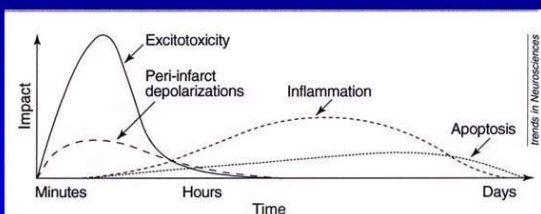
## UNITĂȚILE STROKE

- Au scăzut rata mortalității la bolnavii cu AVC cu cca. 18%
- Au scăzut rata recuperării cu sechele neurologice invalidante și a gradului de dependență
- Au redus spitalizarea pe termen lung a bolnavilor dependenți

## Progression of ischemic insults

12/25

- Excitotoxicity - glutamate-mediated neuronal damage
- Inflammation
- Apoptosis - programmed cell death



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## STROKE UNITS

- Compartiment spitalicesc
- Tratează aproape în exclusivitate bolnavii cu AVC
- Asigură abordare multidisciplinară coordonată:
  - Tratatament medical, nursing, fizioterapie, terapie ocupațională, logopedie, ergoterapie, terapie socială, etc
  - Întâlniri periodice pentru evaluarea bolnavilor și stabilirea planului terapeutic
  - Protocoale de evaluare medicală și diagnostic (inclusiv imagistică cerebrală)
  - Debut rapid a terapiei specifice

## STROKE UNITS


- Unități de terapie acută- staționare bolnavi max. 1 săptămână
- Unități de abordare completă ( comprehensive stroke units)- terapie acută + terapie continuă, inclusiv 1-2 săptămâni de recuperare
- Rehabilitation stroke units- bolnavi preluați la 1-2 săpt de la debut, recuperare până la câteva luni
- Echipe mobile – bolnavi cu AVC evaluați și tratați în saloanele în care sunt internați

Stroke Units Trialists Colaboration. 2002

## Funcția pulmonară și protecția căilor aeriene

- IOT de protecție +/- VM la bolnavi cu:
  - Hipoxemie/ hipercaemie severe
  - GCS < 8
  - Risc crescut de aspirație
- prognosticul bolnavului cu AVC și IOT nu este obligatoriu nefavorabil Berrouschot et al., 2000
- 1/3 din bolnavii IOT au supraviețuit la un an de zile de la accidental acut Steiner et al., 1997

Cerebrovasc Dis 2003;16:311-335 Of course, before intubation is performed, the general prognosis, co-existing life-threatening medical conditions and the presumed will of the patient and his/her family have to be taken into account.



Steiner et al., 1997  
European Stroke Initiative  
Recommendations for Stroke Management

## Dotări minime necesare în centrele STROKE

- Examinare CT disponibilă 24 ore/24
- Protocoale de diagnostic și tratament a bolnavilor cu AVC validate de specialiști
- Cooperare strânsă neurologi, interniști, recuperare neuro-motorie
- Personal de nursing cu pregătire adecvată
- Recuperare neuromotorie precoce instituită, inclusiv logopedie, terapie ocupațională și fizică
- Asigurarea continuării programului de recuperare pe durate lungi de timp
- Investigații neurochirurgicale în 24 de ore( vase extracraniene, Doppler, etc.)
- Ex. laborator
- Monitorizare TA, ECG, SaO2, glicemie, temperatură

## Complicații cardiovasculare la bolnavul cu AVC acut

- Aritmii cardiace( frecvent- fibrilația atrială)
- Decompensare cardiacă Bamford et al., 1990; Broderick et al., 1992
- Infarct miocardic acut, moarte subită
- Modificări traseu Ecg:
  - Segm ST, unda T, prelungire QT- similare ischemiei miocardice Furlan, 1987
  - Creșterea enzimelor de citoliză miocardică Norris, 1983
  - Corelație infarct insular- complicații cardiace Oppenheimer et al., 1996

## Teste diagnostice de urgență în AVC acut

- CT
- ECG și radiografie pulmonară
- Biochimie sanguină
  - HLG, NT, tp de protrombină, INR, PTT
  - Electroliți sanguini, glicemie
  - PCR, VSH
  - Gaze sanguine arteriale
  - Teste de funcție hepatică și renală
- SaO2
- EchoDoppler vase extracraniene
- EEG, RMN, Ct cu substanță de contrast
- RMN de difuzie/perfuzie
- ECG, ECHOCARDIO transtoracic, transesofagian

## Complicații cardiovasculare la bolnavul cu AVC acut- tratament

- Optimizarea debitului cardiac:
- Permite restabilirea perfuziei cerebrale în zone de ischemie cu alterarea autoreglării fluxului sanguin cerebral
  - Suport inotrop- Dobutamină/ Dopamină-
  - PVC: 8- 10 cm H2O- NORMOVOLEMIE PT A MENȚINE PPC
  - De evitat hiper/ hipovolemie- efect negativ asupra PPC
  - PA medie de menținut la limita superioară a normalului( high normal)
  - AV la valori normale( antiaritmice, cardioversie, pacing temporar sau definitiv)

## Funcția pulmonară și protecția căilor aeriene

- Menținerea PaO2 esențială pentru funcția metabolică a neuronilor din zona de penumbră ischemică
- Bolnavii cu risc crescut de hipoxie:
  - Suferință evolutivă de trunchi cerebral
  - Infarcte de emisfer cerebral
  - Convulsii subintraante
  - Complicații:
    - Pneumonie, sindrom de inhalare
    - Embolie pulmonară
    - Edem pulmonar acut, decompensare cardiacă
    - Depresie respiratorie în somn profund!

## PRESIUNEA ARTERIALĂ LA BOLNAVUL CU AVC ACUT

- Autoreglarea fluxului sanguin cerebral poate fi alterată în zonele de infarct cerebral
- Fluxul sanguin în zonele de penumbră ischemică poate fi dependent pasiv de PAM
- Variațiile PAM pot fi foarte importante pt perfuzia zonei ischemice
- HIPOTENSIUNEA ARTERIALĂ CATASTROFALĂ PT PROGNOSTICUL NERUROLOGIC
- Valori țintă TA:
  - 180 mmHg- TA sistolică, 100-105 mmHg TA diastolică
  - Inacceptabile valori > 220 mmHg TA sistolică, > 120 mmHg TA diastolică

## PRESIUNEA ARTERIALĂ LA BOLNAVUL CU AVC ACUT

- Indicații de tratament hipotensor de urgență:
  - Ischemie miocardică acută
  - Insuficiență cardiacă
  - Insuficiență renală acută
  - Disecția de arc aortic
  - La bolnavii anticoagulați sau sub tromboliză TA
  - Dg. CT cerebral- leziuni nonischemice

NU NIFEDIPINĂ SUBLINGUAL:



- » Scădere bruscă TA
- » HTA rebound
- » Posibil furt ischemic!

| Characteristic                                | Median | Interquartile range |
|---|--------|---------------------|
| Initial hemodynamic profile                   |        |                     |
| Admission heart rate, min                     | 80     | 68, 90              |
| Admission systolic blood pressure, mm Hg      | 160    | 140, 183            |
| Admission diastolic blood pressure, mm Hg     | 80     | 68, 92              |
| Admission mean arterial blood pressure, mm Hg | 106    | 93, 121             |

Table 2 Use of antihypertensive agents in management of patients with acute ischemic stroke according to prior antihypertensive treatment

| Antihypertensive management | Prior treatment, n = 70 |      | No prior treatment, n = 75 |      |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|
|                             | n                       | %    | n                          | %    |
| Discontinued                | 6                       | 7.4  | —                          | —    |
| Continued                   | 40                      | 50.8 | —                          | —    |
| Initiated                   | 33                      | 41.8 | —                          | —    |
| Initiated                   | —                       | —    | 27                         | 36.0 |

Table 3 Antihypertensive agents used in treatment of patients with acute ischemic stroke

| Class   | At home <sup>a</sup> |      | During hospitalization <sup>b</sup> |      |
|---|----------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|
|   | n                    | %    | n                                   | %    |
| ACE inhibitors or angiotensin II receptor antagonists | 36                   | 31.0 | 60                                  | 30.3 |
| β-Adrenergic antagonists                              | 34                   | 29.3 | 54                                  | 27.3 |
| Calcium channel blockers                              | 13                   | 11.2 | 25                                  | 12.6 |
| Diuretics   | 19                   | 16.4 | 22                                  | 11.1 |
| CNS-acting agents                                     | 6                    | 5.2  | 15                                  | 7.6  |
| Direct vasodilators                                   | 0                    | 0.0  | 11                                  | 5.6  |
| Combined αβ antagonists                               | 4                    | 3.5  | 7                                   | 3.5  |
| α-Adrenergic antagonists                              | 4                    | 3.5  | 4                                   | 2.0  |

<sup>a</sup> No. treated with antihypertensive agents before hospitalization for acute ischemic stroke = 76; median interquartile range (IQR) = 3 (1, 2).

<sup>b</sup> No. treated with antihypertensive agents during hospitalization for acute ischemic stroke = 199; median IQR = 2 (1, 3).

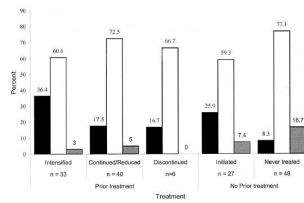
The European Stroke Initiative Executive Committee and the EUSI Writing Committee

Table 8 Characteristics of selected antihypertensive drugs that may be used in acute stroke (modified from Kaplan [1990] and Ringelb et al. [1998])

| Oral drugs                                     | Dose   | Onset min | Duration h | Adverse effects  |
|--|--|-----------|------------|--|
| <b>Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor</b> |  |           |            |  |
| Captopril                                      | 6–12.5 mg s.c.                               | 15–30     | 4–6        | decrease in cerebral blood flow orthostatic hypotension                          |
| <b>Parenteral drugs</b>                        |  |           |            |  |
| <b>Central sympatholytic</b>                   |  |           |            |  |
| Clonidine                                      | 0.2 mg in initial then 0.1 mg/h up to 0.8 mg | 5–15      | 6–8        | profound hypotension; caution if combined with diuretics                         |
| <b>Vasodilators</b>                            |  |           |            |  |
| Nitroprusside                                  | 0.25–10 µg/kg min <sup>-1</sup>              | 1–5       |            | nausea, vomiting, muscle twitching, sweating, thiocyanate intoxication           |
| Nitroglycerin                                  | 5–100 µg/kg min <sup>-1</sup>                | 2–5       |            | tachycardia, headaches, vomiting   |
| Dihydropyridin                                 | 6–20 mg i.v. bolus 1.5–7.5 mg/h              | 1–2       | 1–2        | tachycardia, headaches   |
| <b>β-Blocker</b>                               |  |           |            |  |
| Propranolol                                    | 1–10 mg i.v.                                 | 1–2       | 3–6        | β-blocker side-effects (eg. bronchospasm, decreased cardiac output, bradycardia) |
| <b>α1-Blocker</b>                              |  |           |            |  |
| Labetalol                                      | 20–80 mg i.v. bolus 2 mg/min i.v. infusion   | 5–10      | 3–5        | vomiting, postural hypotension, nausea, dizziness                                |
| <b>α2-Blocker</b>                              |  |           |            |  |
| Urapidil                                       | 10–50 mg i.v. bolus 0–30 mg/h                | 2–5       | 3          | no serious side-effects  |
| <b>Central sympatholytic</b>                   |  |           |            |  |
| Clonidine                                      | 0.075 mg s.c.                                | 5–10      | 3–5        | initial blood pressure increase, sedation  |

The use of oral nifedipin is strongly discouraged.

Cerebrovasc Dis 2003;16:311–337



July 12 of 20 2004 NEUROLOGY 63

Table 9 Suggested antihypertensive treatment in acute ischemic stroke (modified from Brott et al. [1994] and Ringelb et al. [1998]; availability of substances may vary between countries)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Systolic BP 180–220 mm Hg and/or diastolic BP 105–140 mm Hg                     | do not treat  |
| 2 Systolic BP ≥ 220 mm Hg and/or diastolic BP 120–140 mm Hg, on repeated measures | captopril 6.25–12.5 mg p.o./i.m.<br>labetalol 5–20 mg i.v., <sup>1</sup><br>urapidil 10–50 mg i.v., followed by 4–8 mg/h i.v., <sup>2</sup><br>clonidine 0.15–0.3 mg i.v. or s.c.<br>dihydropyridin 5 mg i.v. plus metoprolol 10 mg |
| 3 Diastolic BP ≥ 140 mm Hg  | nitroglycerin 5 mg i.v., followed by 1–4 mg/h i.v.<br>sodium nitroprusside 1–2 mg   |

BP = Blood pressure.

<sup>1</sup> Avoid labetalol in patients with asthma, cardiac failure, severe conduction abnormalities and bradycardia.  
<sup>2</sup> In patients with unstable conditions and rapidly fluctuating BP, alternating urapidil/labetalol and arterenol may be used.

## CONTROLUL GLICEMIEI

- Hiperglicemia ageavează prognosticul bolnavului cu AVC
- Glicemie > 10 mmol/l necesită insulinoterapie imediată
- Soluții de repleție în terapia imediată: nu vor conține glucoză!
- ATENȚIE: hipoglicemia poate avea simptomatologie de AVC acut!

## OME Use of antihypertensive agents in the management of patients with acute ischemic stroke

P.K. Lindenaer, MD, MSc; M.C. Mathew, MD, MPH; T.S. Ntuli, MPH; P.S. Pekow, PhD; J. Fitzgerald, MS, RN; and E.M. Benjamin, MD

NEUROLOGY 2004;63:318–323

## BALANȚA HIDROELECTROLITICĂ

- NORMOVOLEMIE!!! Pt a menține presiunile de perfuzie: cerebrală și renală
- Balanță ușor negativă în prezența edemului cerebral
- Nu soluții hipotone! ATENȚIE: glucoza 5%!
- Dozare electroliti sanguini zilnic!



### European Stroke Initiative Recommendations for Stroke Management – Update 2003

#### Recommendations (All Level IV)

- 1 Continuous cardiac monitoring is recommended in the first 48 h of stroke onset particularly in patients with: (a) previous known cardiac disease, (b) history of arrhythmias, (c) unstable blood pressure, (d) clinical signs/symptoms of heart failure, (e) abnormal baseline ECG and (f) infarct involving the insular cortex.
- 2 Oxygenation monitoring with pulse oxymetry is recommended.
- 10 Avoid and treat hypotension particularly in unstable patients by administering adequate amounts of fluids (see further on) and, when required, volume expanders and/or catecholamines (epinephrine 0.1–2 mg/h plus dobutamine 5–50 mg/h).
- 11 Monitoring of serum glucose levels is recommended, particularly in known diabetic patients.
- 12 Glucose solutions are not recommended due to the detrimental effects of hypoglycaemia.
- 13 Treatment of serum glucose levels > 10 mmol/l with insulin titration is recommended.
- 14 Immediate correction of hypoglycaemia is recommended by intravenous dextrose bolus or infusion of 10–20% glucose.
- 15 Treatment of body temperature  $\geq 37.5^\circ\text{C}$  is recommended.
- 16 In case of fever, the search of a possible infection (site and aetiology) is recommended, in order to start tailored antibiotic treatment.
- 17 Antibiotic, antimycotic or antiviral prophylaxis is not recommended in immunocompetent patients.
- 18 Monitoring and correction of electrolyte and fluid disturbances are recommended.
- 19 Hypotonic solutions (NaCl 0.45% or glucose 5%) are contra-indicated due to the risk of brain oedema increase consequent to reduction of plasma osmolality.

### European Stroke Initiative Recommendations for Stroke Management – Update 2003

#### Recommendations

- 1 Low-dose subcutaneous heparin or low-molecular-weight heparins should only be considered for patients at high risk of DVT or pulmonary embolism (level II).
- 2 The incidence of venous thromboembolism may be reduced through early re-hydration and mobilisation and graded compression stockings (level IV).
- 3 Infections after stroke should be treated with appropriate antibiotics.
- 4 Aspiration pneumonia may not be prevented by nasogastric feeding (level IV).
- 5 Early mobilisation is helpful to prevent numerous complications after stroke including aspiration pneumonia, DVT and decubital ulcers (level IV).
- 6 Administration of anticonvulsants to prevent recurrent seizures is strongly recommended (level III).
- 7 Prophylactic administration of anticonvulsants to patients with recent stroke who have not had seizures is not recommended (level IV).

### European Stroke Initiative Recommendations for Stroke Management – Update 2003

#### Recommendation

- 1 Intravenous rtPA (0.9 mg/kg, maximum 90 mg), with 10% of the dose given as a bolus followed by an infusion lasting 60 min, is the recommended treatment within 3 h of onset of ischaemic stroke (level I).
- 2 The benefit from the use of intravenous rtPA for acute ischaemic stroke beyond 3 h after onset of the symptoms is smaller, but present up to 4.5 h (level I).
- 3 Intravenous rtPA is not recommended when the time of onset of stroke cannot be ascertained reliably; this includes persons whose strokes are recognised upon awakening (level IV).
- 4 Intravenous administration of streptokinase is dangerous and not indicated for the management of persons with ischaemic stroke (level II).
- 5 Data on the efficacy and safety of any other intravenously administered thrombolytic drugs are not available to provide a recommendation.
- 6 Intra-arterial treatment of acute MCA occlusion in a 6-hour time window using pro-urokinase results in a significantly improved outcome (level II).
- 7 Acute basilar occlusion may be treated with intra-arterial therapy in selected centres in an institutional protocol as experimental therapy or within a multicentre clinical trial (level IV).
- 8 Anxrod cannot presently be recommended for use in acute ischaemic stroke outside the setting of clinical trials.

### European Stroke Initiative Recommendations for Stroke Management – Update 2003

#### Recommendation

- 1 Craniectomy is recommended for patients whose condition is deteriorating secondary to increased ICP, including those with herniation syndromes (level IV).
- 2 Ventriculostomy or surgical decompression and evacuation of large cerebellar infarctions that compress the brain stem is justified (level III).
- 3 Surgical decompression and evacuation of a large hemispheric infarction can be a life-saving measure and survivors may have a residual neurological deficit that allows an independent life (level III).

### European Stroke Initiative Recommendations for Stroke Management – Update 2003

**Table 10.** Possible remaining indications for heparin treatment after stroke

- 1 Stroke due to cardiac emboli with high risk of re-embolisation (artificial valves, AF, MI with mural thrombi, left atrial thrombosis)
- 2 Coagulopathies such as protein C and S deficiency, APC resistance
- 3 Symptomatic dissection of extracranial arteries
- 4 Symptomatic extracranial and intracranial stenoses
  - a Symptomatic ICS prior to operation
  - b Crescendo TIAs or stroke in progression
- 5 Sinus-venous thrombosis

APC = Activated protein C.