

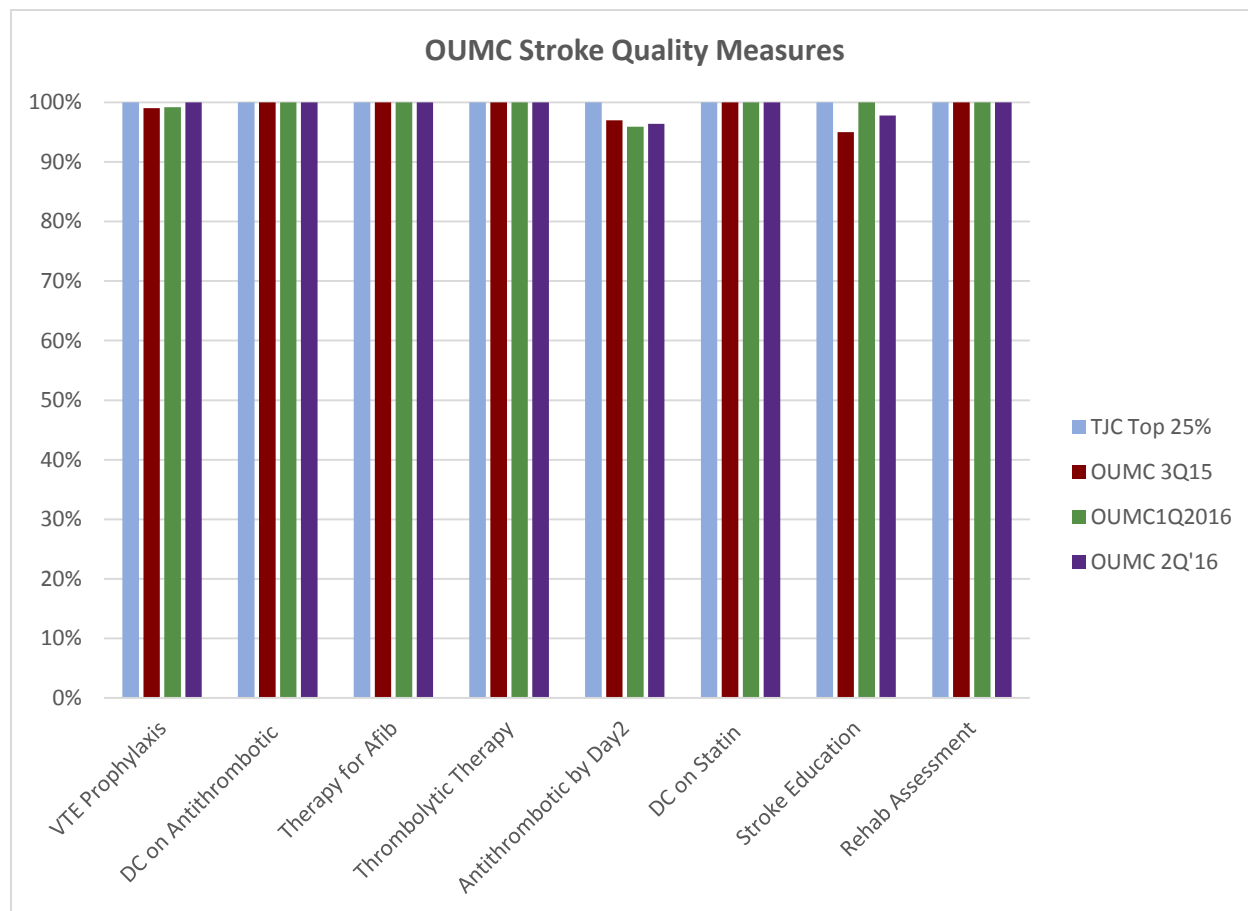


Stroke occurs when a blood vessel bringing blood and oxygen to the brain gets blocked or ruptures. When this happens, brain cells do not get the blood that they need. Without oxygen, nerve cells stop working and die within minutes. As a result, the part of the body that the nerve cells control cannot function. A stroke caused by a blockage of the blood vessel is called an ischemic stroke. A stroke caused by a rupture of the blood vessel is called a hemorrhagic stroke.

These quality measures show how often or how quickly patients at OU Medical Center receive recommended treatments that are known to get the best results for people with strokes.

Quality measure	What it is and why it is important
Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) Prophylaxis	Stroke patients are at increased risk of developing blood clots (VTE). Doctors can order treatments to help prevent blood clots.
Discharged on Antithrombotic Medication	Patients given medication at discharge to prevent future strokes or blood clots.
Anticoagulation therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter	Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter is a common heart arrhythmia and a risk factor for stroke. Doctors can order medications to treat this to help prevent another stroke.
Thrombolytic Therapy	Thrombolytic is the name of the drugs that break up a clot that causes a stroke. The medication is given within 3 hours of when symptoms occur.
Antithrombotic therapy by the end of hospital day 2.	These are drugs that help reduce the bad effects of a stroke and help prevent another stroke from occurring.
Discharge on Statin	High cholesterol is a risk factor for stroke. This medicine lowers cholesterol and helps prevent another stroke.
Stroke Education	Patient education following a stroke can help prevent future strokes.
Rehabilitation Assessment	A stroke can cause damage to the brain that makes it difficult to return to normal daily activities. Rehabilitation can help the recovery process and improve the patient's activity.

The chart below shows the percentage of stroke patients who received recommended care compared to hospitals nationally. Benchmark data is from The Joint Commission National Core Comparison Group.



Tests and procedures are used to diagnosis a stroke when a person has a stroke or has stroke warning signs or risk factors. OU Medical Center looks at the outcomes of any invasive procedure performed at the hospital to make sure our patients receive quality care. Complications of procedures are measured and compared to national benchmarks.

For example, diagnostic catheter angiography is a medical test that can be performed. In this procedure a thin plastic tube, called a catheter, is inserted into a blood vessel through a small incision in the skin. The catheter is guided to the area being examined and pictures are taken of the area using x-rays. This test is used to detect blockage of the arteries to the brain that can cause a stroke. The test can also be used to detect an aneurysm, which is a weakness in the wall of the blood vessel that could rupture and cause a stroke. The risks for this procedure are small and the benchmark for a serious complication or death from the procedure is less than 1 percent.

OU Medical Center performed 449 diagnostic catheter angiographies from January 2016 through July 2016 with zero deaths.