

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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UT SOUTHWESTERN NAMED AS TOP STROKE CENTER

DALLAS – March 26, 1999 – UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas was one of seven medical centers listed as a top stroke center by Time Magazine.

The magazine, which included UT Southwestern's designation in the Feb. 15, 1999 issue, addressed recent advances in treatment of stroke.

In one recent breakthrough, doctors found that an experimental drug, pro-urokinase, appears to increase recovery rates if given to stroke patients early. Pro-urokinase is not yet government-approved.

And in another recent study, researchers announced that TPA, a drug UT Southwestern physicians use, can prevent permanent disability or death if given to stroke patients in the first six hours. Previous research had found patients had to receive the drug within three hours.

The article, which touted the benefits of these new stroke medications, recommended people at high risk for stroke identify medical centers and physicians experienced at treating strokes, which usually involve a blood clot obstructing the flow of blood through an artery to the brain. By knowing good, local stroke centers, patients would be able to seek treatment faster.

Other stroke centers listed included Stanford Stroke Center, Palo Alto, Calif.; UCLA Stroke Center, Los Angeles; Columbia-Presbyterian, New York City; Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit; Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio; and St. Luke's Hospital, Kansas City, Mo.

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