

BACKGROUND

Tenecteplase (TNK) is an emerging treatment for acute ischemic stroke (AIS) being adopted in place of alteplase (ALT). Compared to ALT, TNK has a longer half-life, shorter administration time, lower cost, and similarly high efficacy in treating large vessel occlusion. Nevertheless, there are barriers to TNK adoption as a treatment for AIS.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this study is to identify barriers and facilitators to TNK implementation at hospitals within the state of Texas and present them in a quantifiable presentation.

METHODS

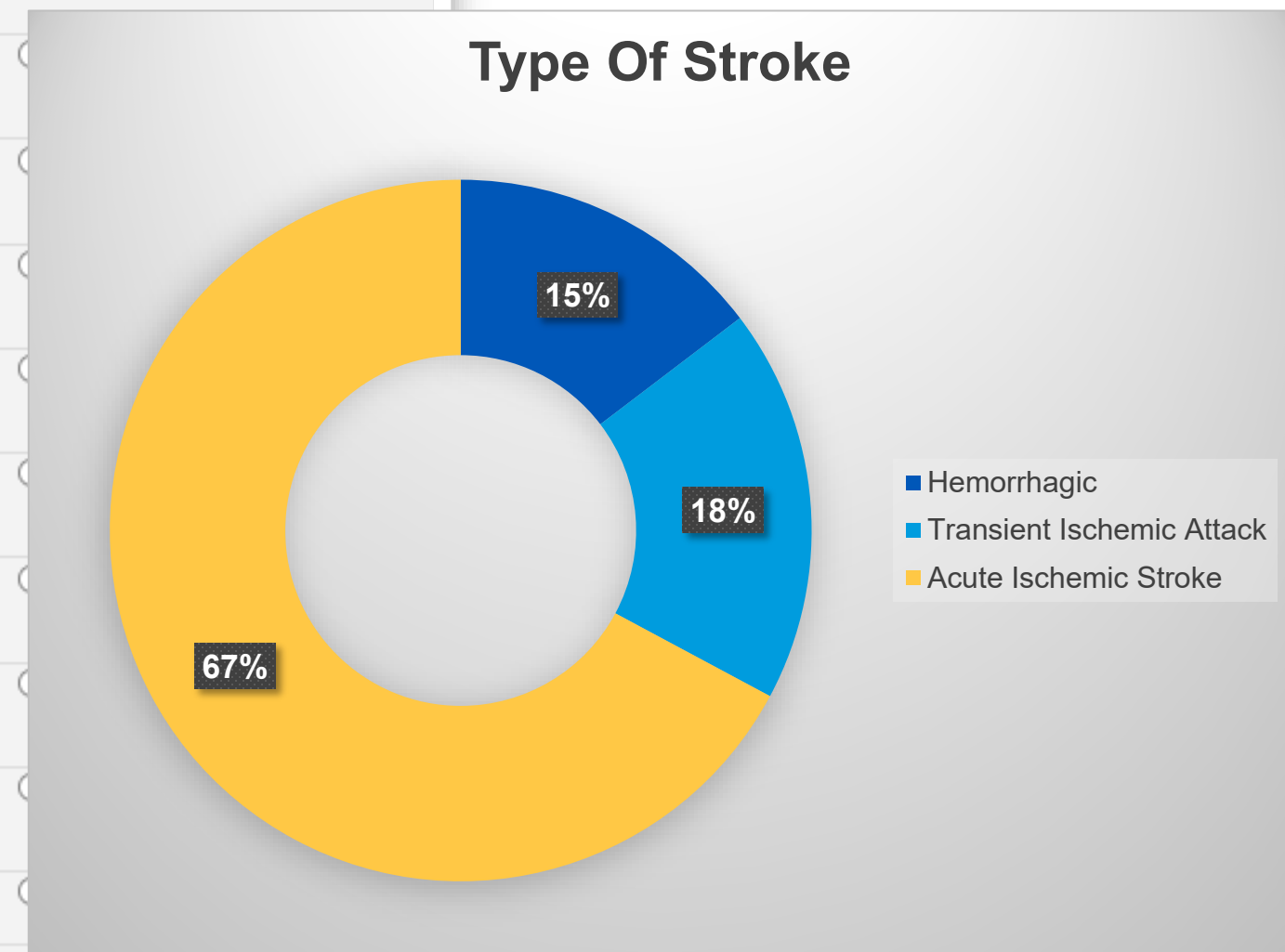
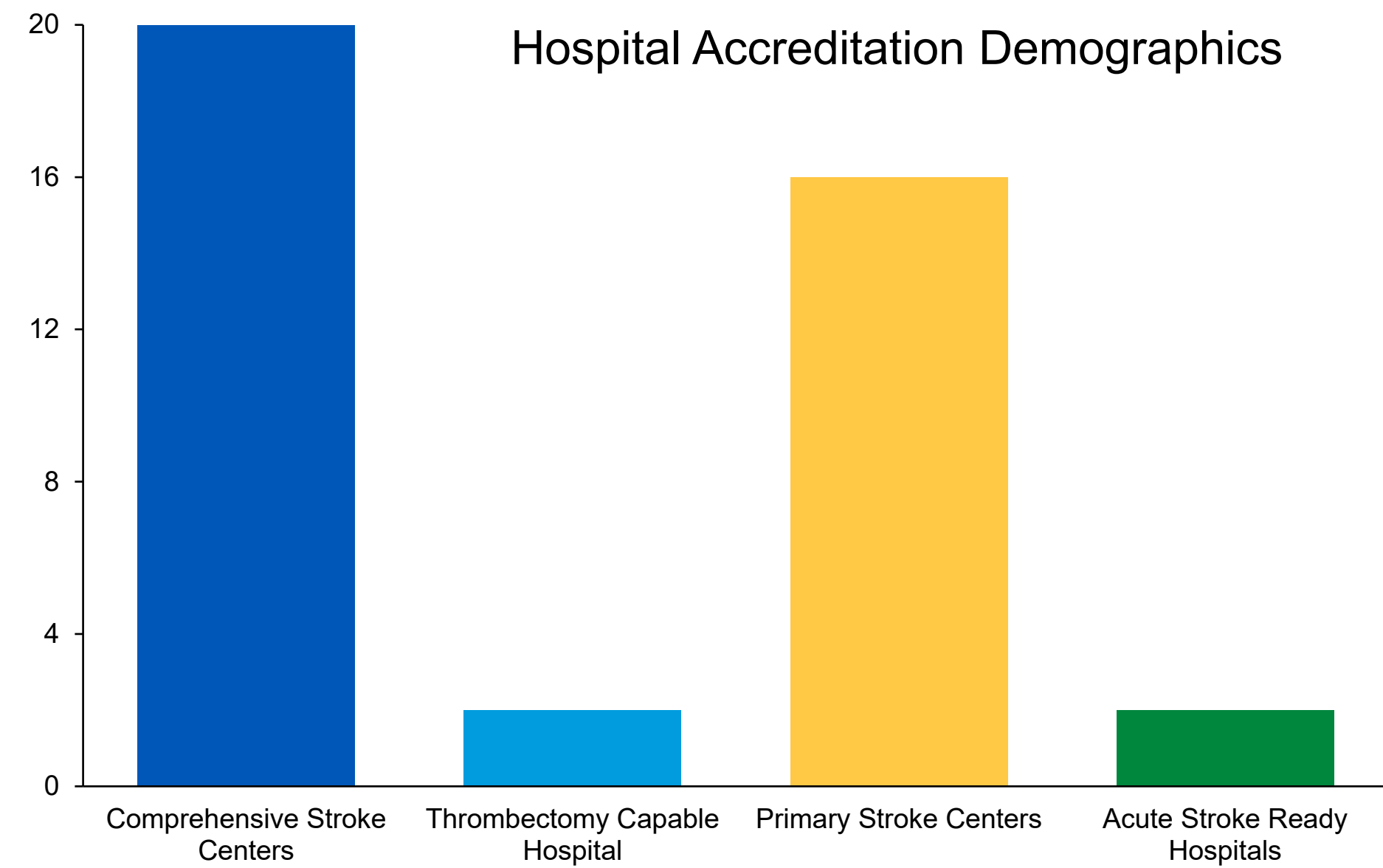
This study examines questionnaire responses from 40 hospitals to examine barriers and facilitators to transition from ALT to TNK. Surveys were done via teleconference with stroke coordinators and physicians associated with the Lone Star Stroke Research Consortium and other regional Texas hospitals. The consortium comprises participants from 6 hub hospitals and 28 spoke hospitals including community-based facilities to Comprehensive Stroke Centers (CSC). Interviews lasting 10-20 minutes were conducted where nominal variables like hospital bed information, stroke information, thrombolytic use, and ordinal variables were recorded utilizing a Likert questionnaire. The participants were blinded to the survey questions to reduce bias.

RESULTS

The 40 Texas hospitals had a mean of 40 ED beds, 49 stroke beds, 685 annual stroke admissions out of which 14.5% were hemorrhagic, 18% Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) and 66.5% AIS respectively. There were 20 (50%) CSC hospitals, 2 (5%) thrombectomy capable, 16 (40%) primary stroke centers, and 2 (5%) were acute stroke ready hospitals. Compared to hospitals that successfully adopted TNK, non-adopters had significantly different views on the barrier of adequate evidence ($P < .05$), TNK delivery times ($P < .05$), and legal issues regarding giving TNK ($P < .05$). However, hospitals were similar in respect to the barriers of having a TNK policy ($P = .094$), buy-in from administration ($P = .276$), the cost of TNK ($P = .089$), and the willingness of pharmacy to adopt TNK ($P = .242$).

DATA REPRESENTATION

| | Extremely important | Important | Neutral | Unimportant | Extremely unimportant |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| We had trouble educating MDs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble educating APPs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble educating RNs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble educating administration | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Our Emergency Department did not want to transition to TNK | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| There was not enough evidence to support TNK | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| TNK was not safer than Alteplase | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| TNK would not reduce door to needle times | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The AHA guidelines did not support TNK in all cases where Acute Ischemic Stroke (AIS) patients were eligible for Intravenous thrombolytic treatment | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Our legal department had questions about liability when giving TNK | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We did not have a policy for switching from t-PA to TNK | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We did not have time to write a policy and procedure | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We did not have time to change policy | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble getting buy-in from Neurologists | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble getting buy-in from Emergency Medicine physicians | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble getting buy-in from APPs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble getting buy-in from RNs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had trouble getting buy-in from administration | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| We had team discussion regarding TNK buy-in | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cost of medication | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |



| Similar Barriers to TNK Adoption Faced by Hospitals | P |
|---|-------|
| Constructing new TNK Policy | 0.094 |
| Buy-In From Administration | 0.276 |
| Cost of TNK | 0.089 |
| Willingness of Pharmacy to adopt TNK | 0.242 |

DISCUSSION

- The purpose of Implementation Science is to reduce the time to adoption of new practices as the standard of care in hospital setups
- There will always be barriers to the adoption process which can be overcome by following a set of steps.
- A process flow chart can solve many of these problems.

CONCLUSIONS

There is a generalizable pattern of barriers and facilitators from the perspective of stroke coordinators and physicians. The results will be used to develop a TNK adoption Toolkit.

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