Patient Handout

Endovascular Therapy (EVT)
Mechanical Retrieval of a Blood Clot

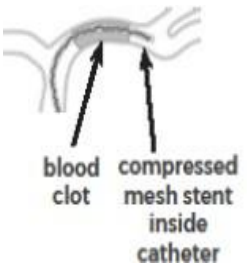
What is a stroke?

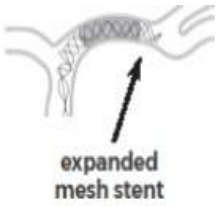
A stroke is an injury to a part of the brain that may be caused by a blood clot that is blocking blood flow.

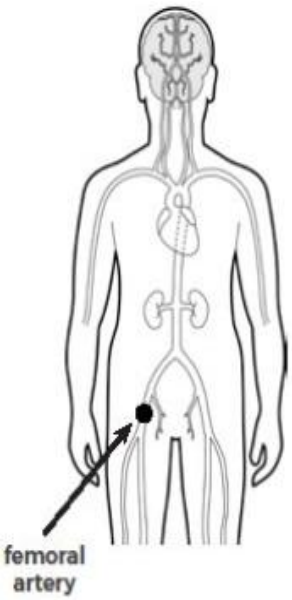
If you have this type of stroke, you may be eligible to be transferred from Lakeridge Health to Toronto for a mechanical retrieval of the blood clot (EVT)

What is Endovascular Therapy (EVT)?

- EVT is a procedure to remove a blood clot in a large artery in the brain.
- EVT is done by inserting a small catheter in a large blood vessel in the groin.
- A guidewire, catheter and metal stent are inserted through the groin and passed up the artery to the clot.
- A mesh stent “traps” the clot and the clot is removed.







When will EVT be performed?

- If your test results suggest you may benefit from an EVT, you will be transferred to a specialized stroke centre in Toronto for further assessment and possible treatment.
- Additional tests and assessments will be complete upon arrival in Toronto. In some cases, these results may show that EVT is not the best treatment option. If this occurs, you may be returned to your local hospital for ongoing care

What are the benefits of EVT?

- When appropriate, EVT may be used to remove the blood clot and restore blood flow to the affected area of the brain, which may improve recovery and reduce the disability from a stroke.

What happens following the EVT procedure?

- Following EVT, you will be monitored at the hospital where the procedure was performed.
- Once medically stable, you will be transferred back to Lakeridge Health or discharged home.

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