Patient Handout

TNK (Clot buster) for Ischemic Stroke

Lakeridge Health

What is an Ischemic Stroke?

An ischemic stroke is an injury to a part of the brain caused by a blood clot.

If you have this type of stroke, you may be offered the clot buster Tenecteplase (TNK) or other treatments with the intention of restoring blood flow.

What is TNK (Tenecteplase)?

- TNK is a medication that breaks up blood clots, allowing blood supply to return to the brain.
- TNK is given to you through a catheter inserted into your vein (an IV).

Who may be eligible for TNK?

- Patients who are having a stroke caused by a blood clot.
- Treatment must be started within 4.5 hours from the start of symptoms.
- When all your tests are completed, the doctor will speak to you and your family to let them know if this medication is an option for you.

What are the benefits?

- Patients receiving TNK have a 30% decrease in disability or death.

What are the risks?

- Patients who receive TNK have a higher risk of bleeding into the brain (6 out of 100 patients).
- Bleeding into the brain may cause stroke symptoms to get worse or may result in death.
- TNK may also cause bleeding in other areas of the body.

Important note

- TNK is an extremely time-sensitive therapy. Early administration is associated with improved outcomes and is a standard treatment of acute ischemic stroke when administered within the appropriate therapeutic window.

CENTRAL EAST STROKE NETWORK
www.cesnstroke.ca
DURHAM DISTRICT

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