

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 683

Short Title: Prehospital Stroke Protocols/EMS Personnel. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Perry (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 8, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO  
3 ADOPT RULES CONCERNING PREHOSPITAL STROKE PROTOCOLS FOR  
4 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Article 7 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
7 a new section to read:

8 "**§ 131E-159.5. Rules to establish EMS protocols for treating and transporting stroke**  
9 **patients.**

10 (a) The Department shall adopt rules to establish evidence-based protocols for  
11 prehospital assessment, treatment, and transportation of stroke patients by emergency medical  
12 services personnel. The rules shall include at least the following:

13 (1) Clear and specific guidelines concerning entry and transfer plans for patients  
14 with suspected large vessel occlusion that results in the patients receiving care  
15 at the most appropriate hospital designated as a primary stroke center.

16 (2) Required education and training for emergency medical services personnel on  
17 the assessment and treatment of stroke patients, including those with  
18 suspected large vessel occlusion.

19 (b) Each holder of an ambulance permit under this Article shall implement the stroke  
20 protocols adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and provide regular training to  
21 licensed emergency medical services personnel employees on the assessment and treatment of  
22 stroke patients, including those with suspected large vessel occlusion."

23 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

