

# VC EMS TRAINING BULLETIN

Bulletin 18  
Date: July 1, 2015

IMPROVING QUALITY...CONTINUOUSLY



*Ventura County  
Emergency Medical Services Agency*

---

## Stroke System Triage Criteria TLKW

---

Currently, per VCEMS Policy 451, the Stroke System Triage Criteria used to identify a patient as a “Stroke Alert”, includes the “time last known well” (TLKW) as 4.5 hours.

With evidence based studies showing improvements for patients that can benefit from other types of interventions, it is now recommended to extend the TLKW to 6 hours.

Hospitals in the county have changed their Stroke policies to include TLKW as 6 hours, with the exception of Los Robles Hospital which is at 8 hours.

As of **August 1, 2015**, to provide for consistency in our system and to give our patients the opportunity for a better outcome, we are changing the **TLKW in VCEMS Policy 451, Stroke System Triage Criteria, to 6 hours**.

Thank you.

VENTURA COUNTY EMS AGENCY

Phone: 805-981-5301

Fax: 805-981-5300

Web Page: [www.vchca.org/ph/ems](http://www.vchca.org/ph/ems)