

In Neurology

Pearls in stroke

Patients presenting with acute ischemic stroke in the intravenous thrombolytic window are eligible for treatment with alteplase or tenecteplase. Before thrombolysis CT scan of brain has to be done to exclude hemorrhage. When patients are in the thrombolytic window, in most patients, only CT scan is enough, since the objective is to exclude hemorrhage. Diagnosis of stroke should remain clinical. This would avoid unnecessary delays in the treatment of patients. MRI of the brain can be done after intravenous thrombolysis to determine the need and eligibility for endovascular therapy.

Dr. S. Meenakshi Sundaram