

Hispanic stroke patients less likely to receive clot-busting drugs in

February 13 2014

Hispanic stroke patients admitted to hospitals in the border states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas were less likely than non-Hispanics in the same border states to receive clot-busting drugs and more likely to die, according to research presented at the American Stroke Association's International Stroke Conference 2014.

Researchers analyzed [stroke care](#) for Hispanic and non-Hispanic patients according to demographics and clinical characteristics in states bordering Mexico and states not on the Mexican border. They found:

- Of the nearly 35,000 Hispanic stroke patients, 21,130 were admitted in border states and 13,774 in non-border states.
- Only 4.8 percent of Hispanic patients in border state hospitals received clot-busting drugs compared to 5.7 percent of non-Hispanic patients in border state hospitals.
- Hispanic stroke patients were 30 percent more likely than non-Hispanics to die in border state hospitals.
- There was no notable difference in death rates between Hispanic and non-Hispanic stroke patients in non-border state hospitals. Researchers say more study is needed to determine why clot-busters are underutilized in Hispanics admitted in border states but not in other states.

Provided by American Heart Association

Citation: Hispanic stroke patients less likely to receive clot-busting drugs in (2014, February 13)
retrieved 3 April 2023 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-02-hispanic-patients-clot-busting-drugs.html>

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