

# SRFT guidance for referral of acute ICH patients to Neurosurgery/Critical Care

## 1 If premorbid mRS $\geq 3$ - unlikely to be candidate for surgery

Description of premorbid disability—modified Rankin Scale (mRS)	Score
No symptoms at all	0
No significant disability despite symptoms; able to carry out all usual duties and activities	1
Slight disability; unable to carry out all previous activities, but able to look after own affairs without assistance	2
Moderate disability; requiring some help, but able to walk without assistance	3
Moderately severe disability; unable to walk without assistance and unable to attend to own bodily needs without assistance	4
Severe disability; bedridden, incontinent and requiring constant nursing care and attention	5

## 2 For patients with Glasgow Coma Scale score < 9:

1. **Stabilise patient** (airway, breathing, circulation), seek help from senior ED staff, if required
2. **Discuss with Neurosurgeon on-call** and decide if patient is for active treatment
3. **Refer to ICU** if it is agreed that patient is for active treatment after discussion with senior neurosurgeon on-call
4. **Consider palliative care / organ donation** if patient is not for active treatment

Neurosurgery on-call  
Pager 07623 500478

ICU specialist trainee  
68751

NHDU specialist  
trainee 68756

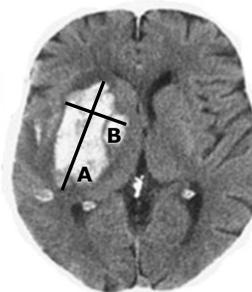
## 3 For patients with Glasgow Coma Scale score 9 to 15:

**Refer to Neurosurgery if any of the following criteria are met:**

- i. **Posterior fossa ICH** (brainstem or cerebellum)
- ii. **Obstruction of the third and/or fourth ventricle** by intraventricular haemorrhage or by external compression
- iii. **ICH volume greater than 30 ml**, as measured by ABC/2 method

Shared care on Neuro HDU (NHDU) *may* be appropriate for these patients — discuss with Neurosurgery and NHDU team on a case-by-case basis

### ABC/2 volume measurement



**A** = longest axis (cm)

**B** = longest axis perpendicular to A (cm)

**C** = number of slices showing haematoma x slice thickness (cm)

$$\text{ICH volume (ml)} = (A \times B \times C)/2$$

## 4 For patients having seizures not controlled by first line drugs

1. Initiate further treatment without delay using standard protocols for status epilepticus, if appropriate
2. Discuss case with ICU/NHDU and consider transfer to critical care for further management