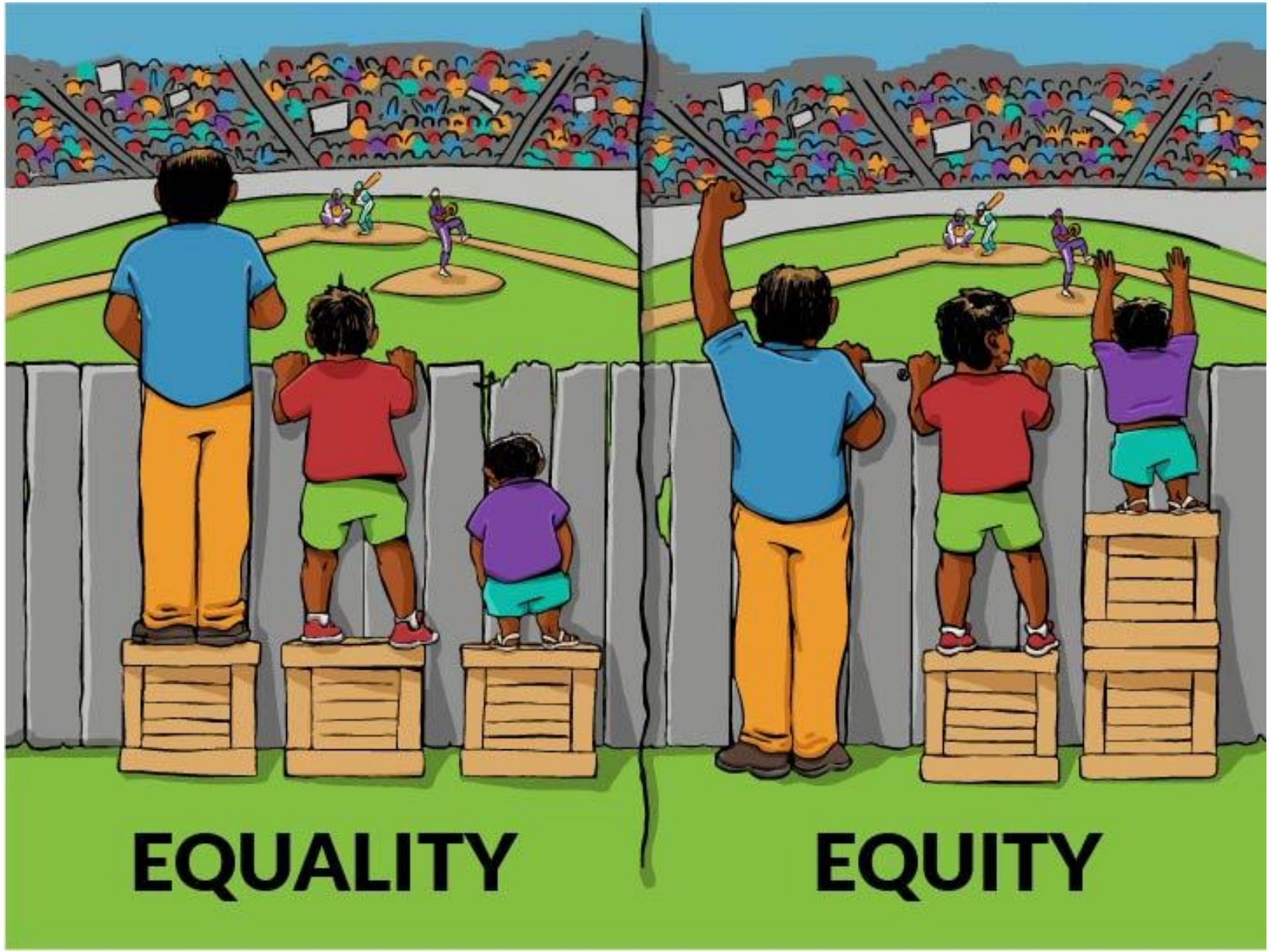
# Stronger Together: Nursing and AHP Leadership for Equitable Stroke Care

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“Interaction Institute for Social Change | Artist: Angus Maguire.”

- Socioeconomic status
- Geography and rurality
- Sex and gender
  - Experience stroke differently (biological sex, gendered social roles, structural determinants of health)
- Race and ethnicity
- Immigration status
- Intersectionality




# Scottish Stroke Improvement Programme

## Annual report 2026

**A Management information release for Scotland**

Publication date: 11 August 2026

## About this release

The **Scottish Stroke Improvement Programme** 2026 annual national report includes data from the Scottish Stroke Care Audit (SSCA). It describes the quality of stroke care delivered by each acute hospital, grouped by NHS board, during 2025 and assesses performance against the Scottish Stroke Care Standards (2016). The full report can be found on the **SSCA website**.

## Main points

- In Scotland in 2025, 11,048 people had a final diagnosis of stroke, compared with 11,341 in 2024. Of these, 9,443 (85.5%) had an ischaemic stroke, 1,468 (13.3%) had an intracerebral haemorrhage and 137 (1.2%) had no definite stroke type recorded.
- Between 2024 and 2025 there was a small improvement in bundle performance across Scotland, increasing from 53.1% to 56.7%. However, performance remains below the achieved level in 2019, when 64% of patients received all eligible components of the bundle.

### Inpatient stroke care standards from 2021 to 2025

Search ...

# National Clinical Guideline for Stroke for the UK and Ireland



The National Clinical Guideline for Stroke for the UK and Ireland provides authoritative, evidence-based practice guidance to improve the quality of care delivered to every adult who has a stroke in the United Kingdom and Ireland, regardless of age, gender, type of stroke, location, or any other feature. The guideline is intended for:

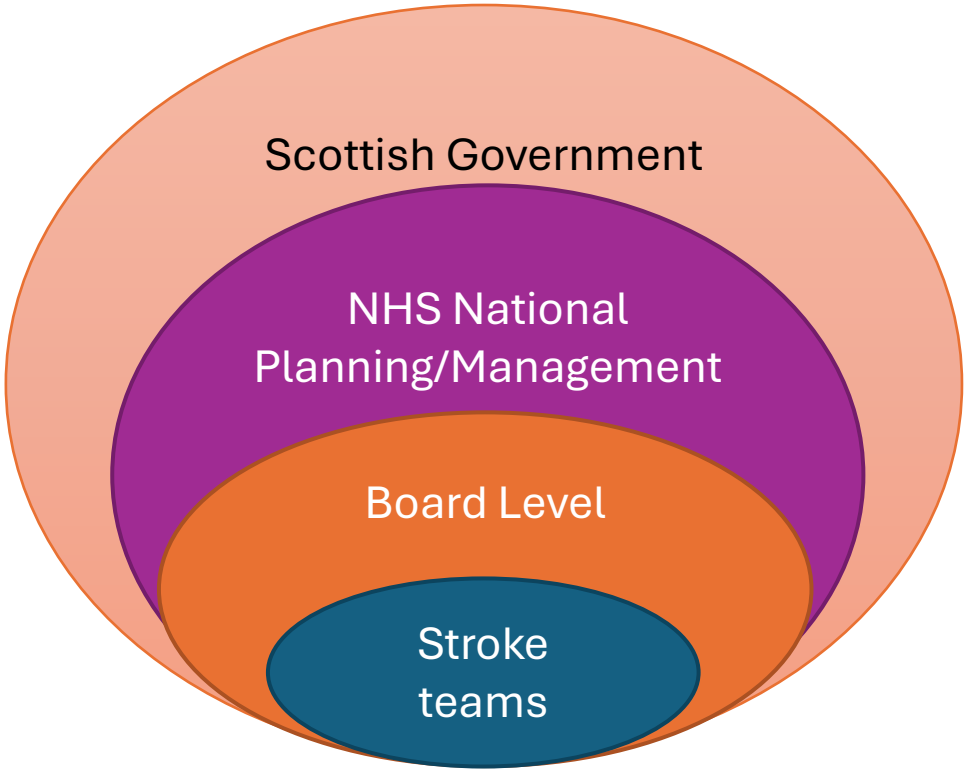
- Those providing care – nurses, doctors, therapists, care staff
- Those receiving care – patients, their families, their carers
- Those commissioning, providing or sanctioning stroke services
- Anyone seeking to improve the care of people with stroke.

The guideline is an initiative of the Intercollegiate Stroke Working Party. The fifth edition of the guideline was published in 2016. The 2023 edition is a partial update of the 2016 edition and was developed in collaboration with the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) and the



# Challenges

- Workforce
- Financial resource
- Competing demands
- Time



# What can you do as leaders?

- Don’t wait for someone to come and fix your problems
  - What is in your sphere of influence?
- Think critically about your pathways and processes
  - That’s the way we do it here…..”
- Learn from others – network
  - Colleagues from other services
  - Colleagues of different professional background
  - Other countries
- Look for benefits outwith stroke to support your case for change
- Use data
- Get together with like minded people