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Camden 'best performing' for community stroke care

People who have suffered a stroke in Camden receive some of the best care in England, according to a new report from the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Camden came top in London and third out of 151 areas across the country.

Camden's stroke service was ranked as "best performing", with particularly high scores for early supported discharge, participation in community life and involvement in planning and monitoring. The service is provided by **REACH**, part of NHS Camden Provider Services, in partnership with the London Borough of Camden, UCLH and Royal Free Hospitals and an extensive network of organisations from the voluntary and charity sectors.

REACH provides community rehabilitation, psychology and speech and language therapy services to stroke patients in Camden. Mirek Skrypak, the stroke service manager, said: "We are delighted to have achieved this recognition – it's a testament to the dedication and hard work of staff. Our partnership approach to service development between stroke clinicians, community therapists, stroke survivors, carers and commissioners means that recovery and quality of life for Camden's stroke patients is greatly improved."

In comparison to other areas, the report says Camden's stroke services excel in providing high quality:

- Pathways and practices in transferring stroke survivors from hospital to home
- Range of community based services to improve independence and integration into the community
- Stroke Early Supported Discharge Services
- Stroke specific patient information
- Reviews for stroke survivors on a regular basis
- Involvement of stroke survivors and carers in service development.

The REACH Stroke Early Discharge Service offers stroke patients an intensive therapy programme delivered in the community by a multidisciplinary team. Its aim is to help stroke patients achieve a faster recovery and regain independence more quickly. Patients requiring a longer period of rehabilitation receive support from REACH Community Rehabilitation and Support.

Ends

For further information contact

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Notes:

1. The [review](#)¹ looked at the 'pathway' of care provided to people who experienced a stroke or a 'mini-stroke' (called a transient ischemic attack) and their carers.

It was conducted throughout 2010, and focused on care from the point where people prepared to leave hospital, to the ongoing care and support in their homes. Both health and adult social care, as well as other relevant services, were reviewed during this period.

The full categories were "Best performing; Better performing, Fair performing and Least well performing".

[Read more about the Review of Stroke Services](#)² for people who have had a stroke and their carers visit:

2. **NHS Camden Provider Services** delivers community health services in Camden and other London boroughs. Visit the [website](#)³ to find out more about our services including sexual and reproductive health services, community nursing, children's services, palliative care, podiatry and wheelchair services.
3. [Find out more about REACH Services](#)⁴ in Camden

[Watch a video about inpatient and community rehabilitation services](#)⁵ in Camden

¹ Full CQC report: <http://www.cqc.org.uk/reviewsandstudies/currentprogramme/strokeservices.cfm>

² CQC Review: <http://www.cqc.org.uk/reviewsandstudies/currentprogramme/strokeservices.cfm>

³ Camden Provider Services: <http://www.camdenproviderservices.nhs.uk>

⁴ REACH Services: <http://www.camdenproviderservices.nhs.uk/service/community-rehabilitation-services>

⁵ CPS YouTube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoR80GTzU>