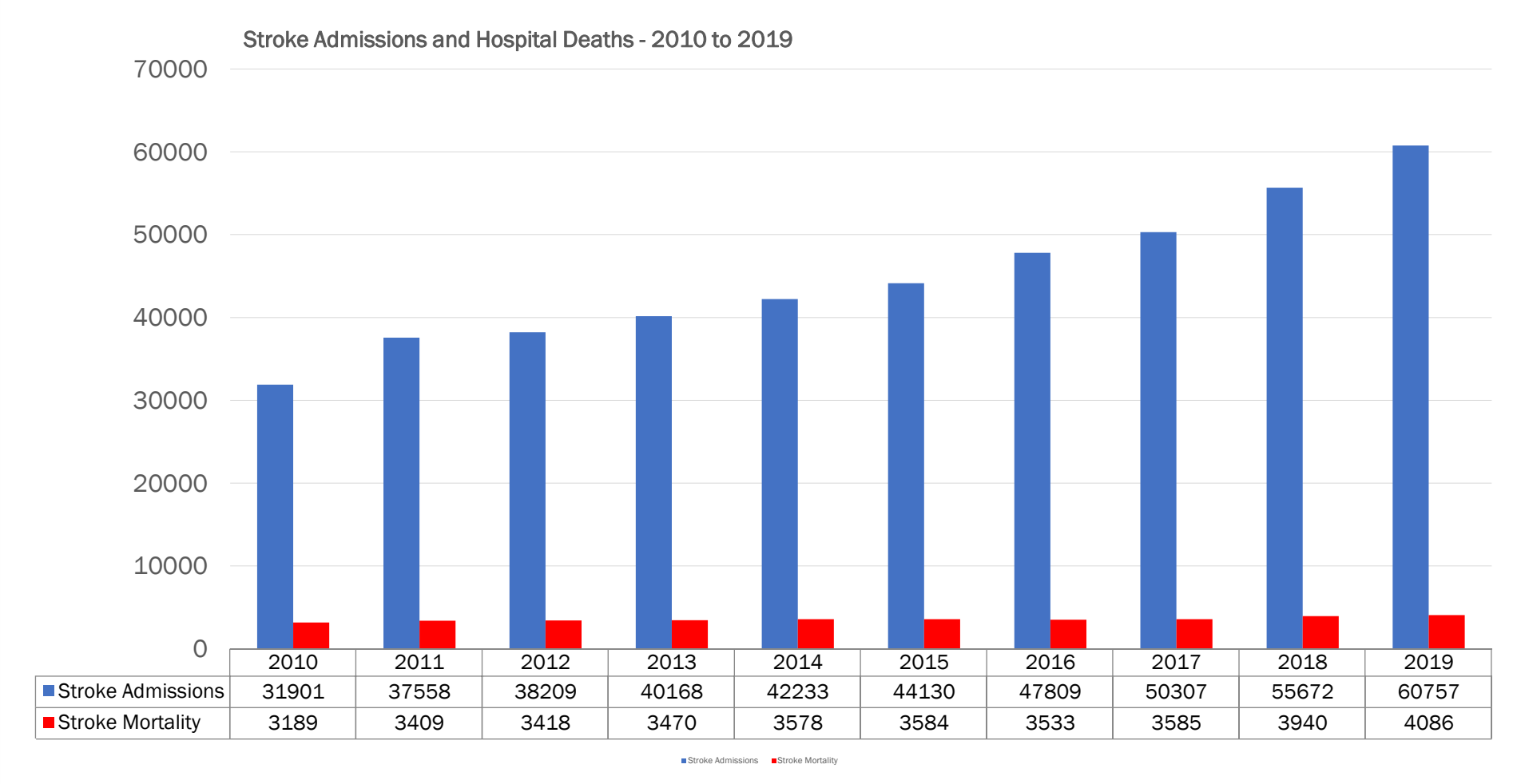


# IMPROVING ACCESS TO STROKE UNIT CARE IN SRI LANKA



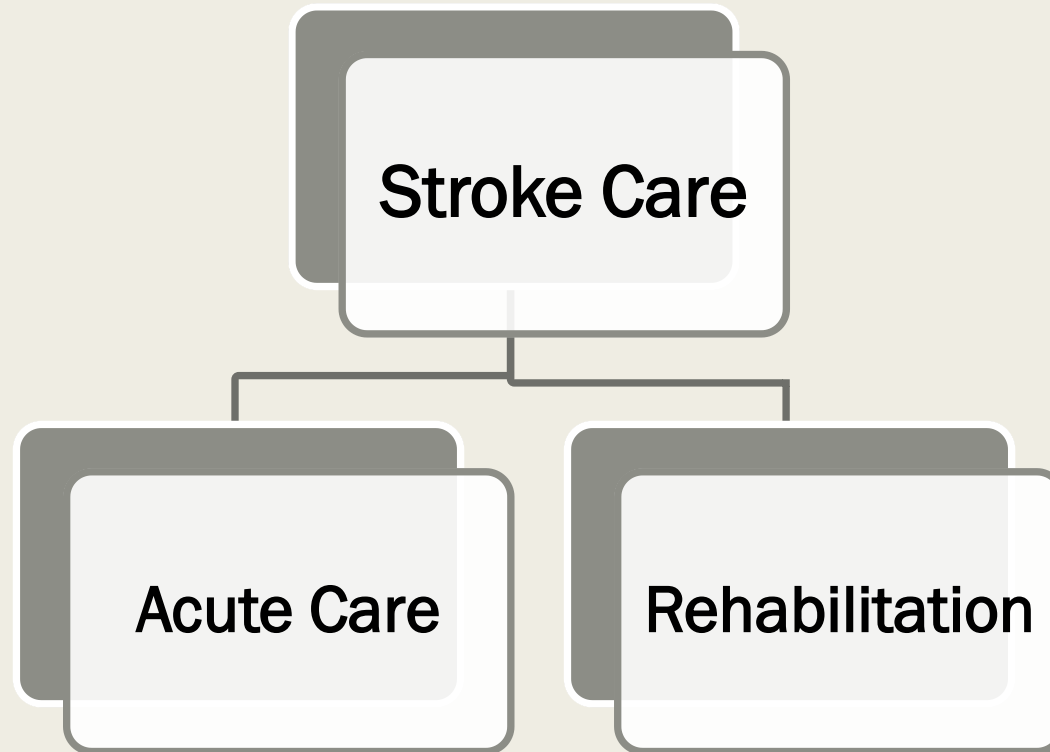
*Harsha Gunasekara*  
*President – National Stroke Association of Sri Lanka*

# Stroke Admissions to State Hospitals in Sri Lanka

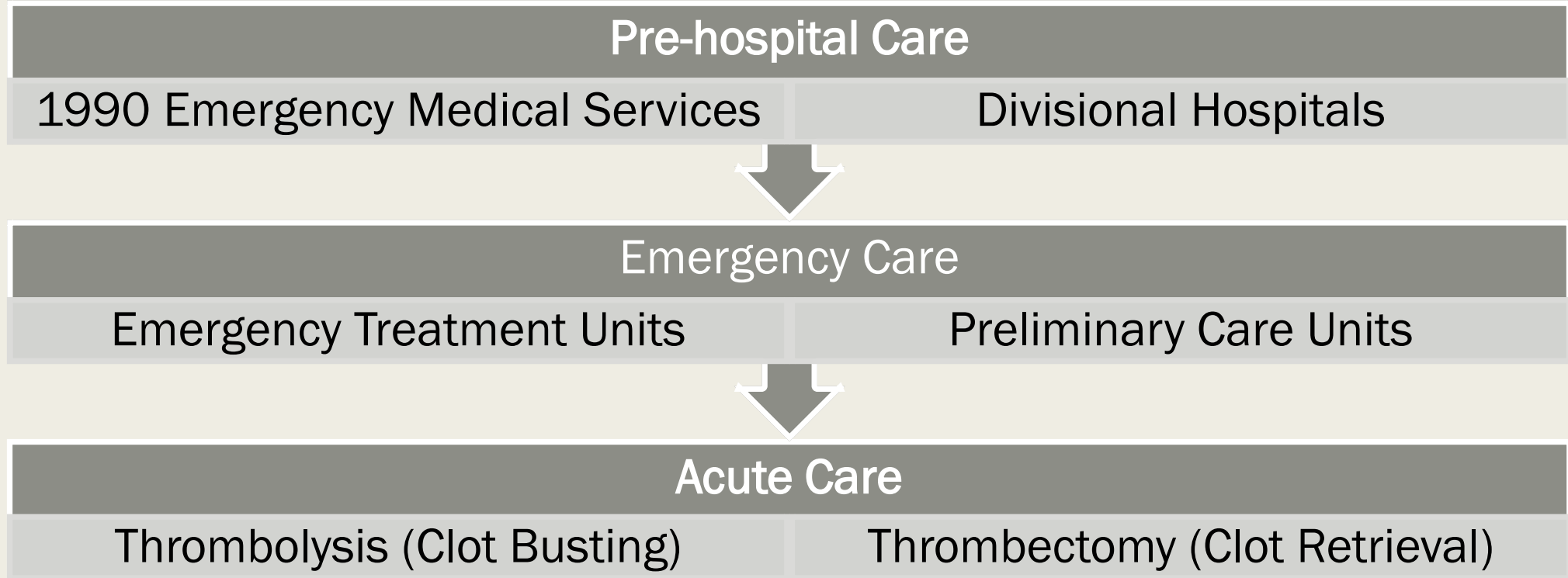


*(Annual Health Statistics – 2010 to 2019, Ministry of Health)*

# Organization of Stroke Care



# Acute Stroke Care

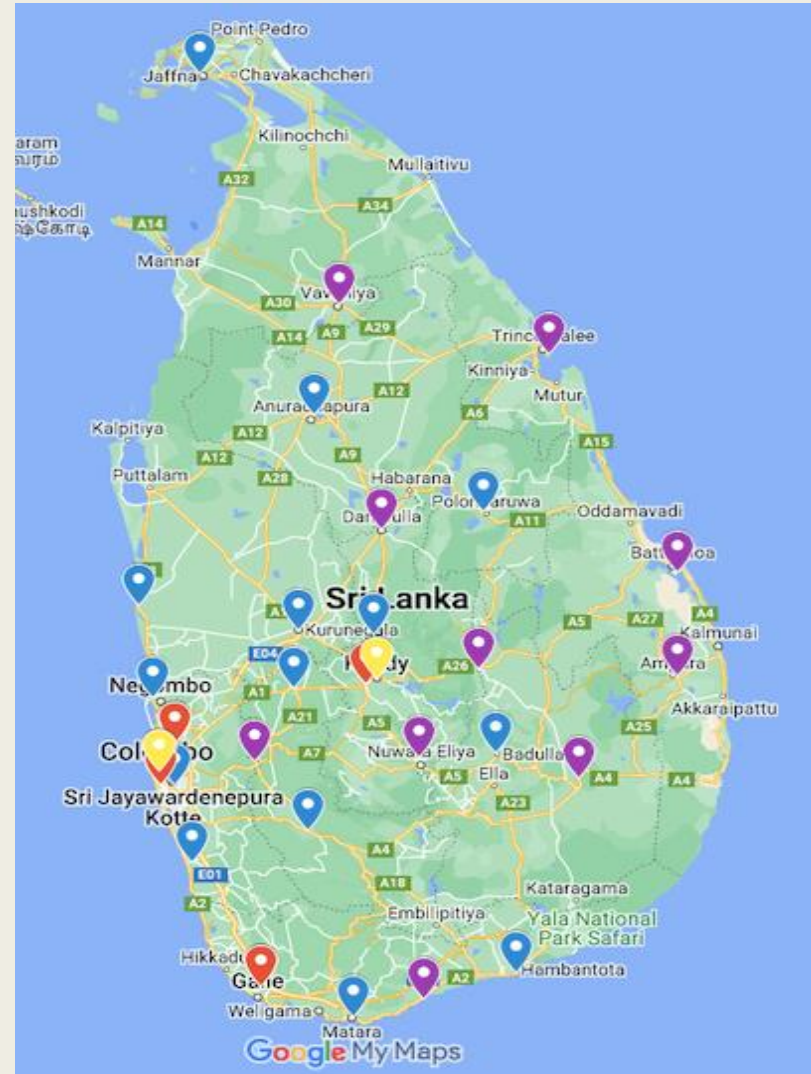


# CURRENT STATUS OF ACUTE STROKE CARE IN SL

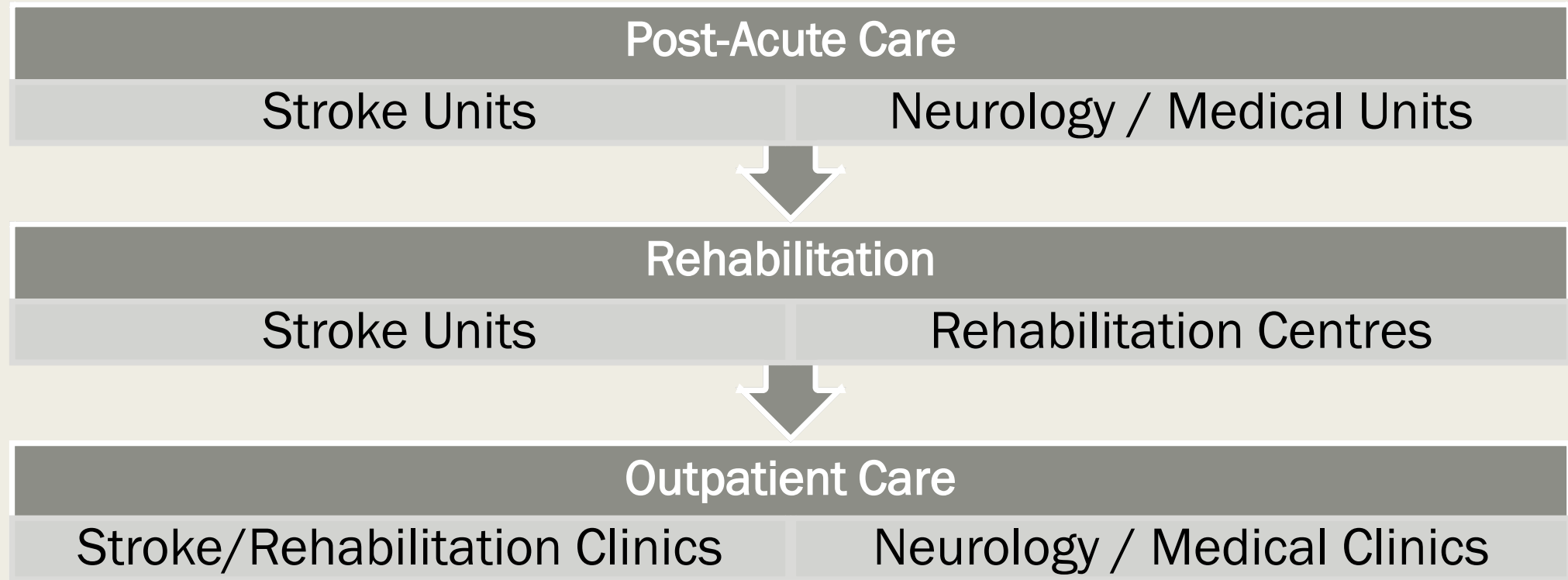
## Hospitals Providing Acute Care



## Neurology Units



# Rehabilitation



# What is a stroke unit?

- A specialized ward in an acute hospital with dedicated beds, offering a multidisciplinary stroke treatment by a dedicated stroke team.
- High Dependency Unit.
- Coordinated by a neurologist/stroke physician and with trained nursing staff.
- Diagnostic services available 24 hours / 7 days.
- Documented, scientifically evidence-based, clinical protocols.

# Benefits of stroke units

Reduction in  
mortality:

**17%**

Reduction in  
death or  
dependence:

**30%**

Reduction in  
death or  
institutional care:

**25%**



# Current Status of Stroke Unit Care in SL

- Stroke Admissions = 60757
- Stroke beds = 74 (across 9 stroke units)

■ Access to a Stroke Unit = 14.6%

*(91% in high income countries, 18% in LLMICs)*

1. *Annual Health Statistics – 2019, Ministry of Health*
2. Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases  
Volume 32, Issue 10, October 2023, 107269



HOW CAN WE IMPROVE  
ACCESS TO  
STROKE UNIT CARE?



# Planned new stroke units by Ministry of Health (Annual Action Plan – 2019)

Strategy	Activities	Total Estimated Cost Rs.(Mn)	Estimated cost for the year 2019 (Rs.Mn)	Proposed start Date	Proposed completion Date	Financial Target (Rs Mn)				Physical Target (%)				Output	Proposed Source of Fund	Responsibility
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
	Construction of the Art Maternal & Child Care Center-CHTH,Ragama	300	300	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	75	75	75	75	25	50	75	100	Construction building completed	MOH	DD G(L)
	Construction of Nine Storied Building-NINDT,Maligawatta	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100			
	Development of National Hospital for Respiratory Diseases-NHRD,Welisara	500	500	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	125	125	125	125	25	50	75	100	Building completed		
	Establishment of District Stroke Centers to Improve Stroke Care in Sri Lanka – GH, Rathnapura	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100	EstablishBuilding		
	Establishment of District Stroke Centers to Improve Stroke Care in Sri Lanka – TH, Anuradhapura	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100			
	Establishment of District Stroke Centers to Improve Stroke Care in Sri Lanka – TH, Kandy	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100			
	Construction of Renal Care Treatment Unit-GH,Badulla	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100	Construction building completed		
	Construction of Renal Care Treatment Unit-GH,Jaffna	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100			
	Proposed Premature Baby Unit & ICU-CEBH,Mulleriyawa	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100	Building completed		
	Construction of Water Tank -GH, Kalutara	200	200	01.01.2019	31.12.2019	50	50	50	50	25	50	75	100	Construction building completed		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61550.48</b>	<b>33387</b>			<b>8926.5</b>	<b>8370</b>	<b>7818.5</b>	<b>8272</b>							

# Dedicated Stroke Beds within Neurology Units to function as Stroke Units

- Identify hospitals with Neurology Units which can Facilitate Dedicated Stroke Beds to function as a Stroke Unit.
- Ensure availability of diagnostic services and a multidisciplinary stroke care team in each selected hospital.
- Provision of mandatory equipment to the individual units.

# EQUIPMENT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE TO STROKE UNITS

ITEM	NUMBER REQUIRED PER UNIT	TOTAL NUMBER
Multi-function Beds	10	100
Patient Transfer Trolleys	2	20
Cardiac Monitors	5	50
Syringe Pumps (perfusers)	5	50
Wheel Chairs	5	50

# Hospitals with Neurology Units Identified for future Stroke Units

Hospital	District	Province
District General Hospital, Matale	Matale	Central
District General Hospital, Embilipitiya	Ratnapura	Sabaragamuwa
District General Hospital, Hambantota	Hambantota	Southern
Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa	Batticaloa	East
Teaching Hospital, Jaffna	Jaffna	North
District General Hospital, Trincomalee	Trincomalee	East
Teaching Hospital, Ratnapura	Ratnapura	Sabaragamuwa
Teaching Hospital, Badulla	Badulla	Uva
Teaching Hospital, Nagoda	Kaluthara	Western
District General Hospital, Ampara	Digamadulla	East



# Stroke Unit at Anuradhapura Teaching Hospital (March 2023)



# Acknowledgements

- Mrs Pubudu De Zoysa – IPDG – Rotary District 3220, Sri Lanka & Maldives
- Mr Peter Cribb – Past President
- Mr Senake Amaresinghe – Past Depeuty Governor
- Roger Thornton - Donation in Kind Chairman, Rotary District 9820 - Australia