

# Activase (alteplase) for acute ischemic stroke

## In-service knowledge check

### Questions:

- Stroke is \_\_\_\_\_ cause of long-term disability in the United States. (multiple choice)  
a. not a                      b. a leading                      c. a hidden
- Activase (t-PA) is the only thrombolytic agent indicated for the treatment of acute ischemic stroke. (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- How does Activase (t-PA) work to break down a clot? (multiple choice)  
a. Activase (t-PA) converts entrapped plasminogen to plasmin, which then binds to fibrin in the thrombus.  
b. Activase (t-PA) initiates local fibrinolysis, then binds to fibrin in the thrombus—and ultimately converts entrapped plasminogen to plasmin.  
c. Activase (t-PA) binds to fibrin in the thrombus and converts entrapped plasminogen to plasmin, initiating local fibrinolysis.
- Use of Activase (t-PA) in eligible patients is a Class I, Level of Evidence A recommendation of the AHA/ASA 2007 guidelines. (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- What 3 names are used interchangeably to refer to the only FDA-approved drug to treat acute ischemic stroke?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank)
- What do the initials "t-PA" stand for? \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank)
- Activase (t-PA) must be given within \_\_\_\_\_ of symptom onset. (multiple choice)  
a. 2 hours                      b. 3 hours                      c. 6 hours
- The National Institutes of Health recommends that eligible stroke patients presenting to the Emergency Department (ED) receive Activase (t-PA) within \_\_\_\_\_ minutes. (multiple choice)  
a. 60                      b. 120                      c. 10
- The recommended dose of Activase (t-PA) is 0.9 mg/kg (**not to exceed 90 mg total dose**) infused over 60 minutes, with 10% of the total dose administered as an initial intravenous bolus dose over 1 minute. (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- A patient with acute ischemic stroke aged  $\geq 75$  years is eligible for treatment with Activase (t-PA), but may be at an increased risk of bleeding. (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- Patients with known bleeding diathesis are contraindicated for Activase (t-PA) for acute ischemic stroke treatment if their INR is \_\_\_\_\_. (multiple choice)  
a. 1.9                      b.  $\geq 1.8$                       c.  $> 1.7$
- A patient with acute ischemic stroke who has a blood pressure of  $\leq 185/110$  mm Hg is eligible for Activase (t-PA) treatment (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- Patients who receive Activase (t-PA) have a 6.4% risk of having an intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH). (true/false)  
a. True                      b. False
- Patients treated with Activase (t-PA) in pivotal trials were at least \_\_\_\_\_ more likely to experience minimal to no disability at 3 months compared with patients given placebo. (multiple choice)  
a. 19%                      b. 10%                      c. 30%
- Some common signs and symptoms of stroke include \_\_\_\_\_. (fill in the blank)
- What is the extent of clinical experience with Activase (t-PA)? (multiple choice)  
a. Use has been limited to academic medical centers only.  
b. Activase (t-PA) has been used for more than 5 years in over 10,000 patients.  
c. Activase (t-PA) has been used for more than 10 years in over 100,000 patients.



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**ALTEPLASE**

A RECOMBINANT TISSUE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR

**THE ONE t-PA FOR STROKE**