The Burden of Stroke in Estonia

Based on the findings of The Burden of Stroke in Europe report conducted by King’s College London for the Stroke Alliance for Europe

Population: 1,294,236
Healthcare cost of stroke in Estonia = €42.5 million (€32 per capita)

Treatment landscape:
Currently, 6 stroke units treating 61% of stroke patients. The remainder of stroke patients are cared for in 12 general hospitals
In 2008, the Estonian Stroke Initiative was established with the aim of increasing stroke knowledge among the public and medical professionals
The National Health Insurance Fund, with the assistance of the Estonian L. Puusepp Society of Neurologists and Neurosurgeons, developed national stroke guidelines

Stroke awareness movies, several media broadcasts and recently, lectures for pupils (14-15 years) by neurologists and stroke nurses aim to raise public awareness of stroke
Ongoing public stroke prevention campaigns address the role of healthy lifestyles, blood pressure and cholesterol

Stroke in Estonia:

Incidence: 2,735 strokes per year
Prevalence: 15,635 strokes
Mortality: 1,708 deaths due to stroke per year

Estimated increase 2015–2035:
Incidence: 21%
Prevalence: 9%
Deaths: 32%
DALYs Lost: 19%

Risk factor prevalence:
High blood pressure: 39.2%
High cholesterol: 56.7%
Smoking: 33.2%
Raised glucose: 9.3%

Current public knowledge of stroke risk factors is limited, however there are public stroke prevention campaigns focusing on risk factors.

Anticoagulant treatment rates:
No data has been published to demonstrate the use of oral anticoagulants in Estonia, however:
- The number of thrombolysis procedures has increased since 2003
- Thrombectomy has been available since 2013