

The Burden of Stroke in Malta



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: 397,499

Healthcare cost of stroke in Malta = €8.8 million (€20 per capita)

Treatment landscape:

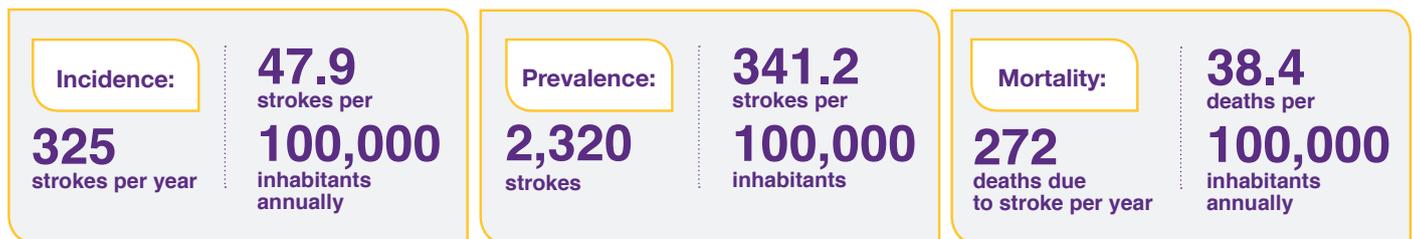
1 acute general hospital, Mater Dei Hospital, with a neurology department providing acute care to stroke patients

The Mater Dei Hospital undertook an audit against the standards set in UK guidelines, leading to the development of local stroke guidelines. A second audit was undertaken in 2012

In 2013, a campaign for stroke awareness called Act FAST was launched, and the Health Promotion Department produced stroke awareness leaflets

Medical education emphasises the significance of stroke as a medical emergency, and refresher courses are offered for medical staff, including GPs

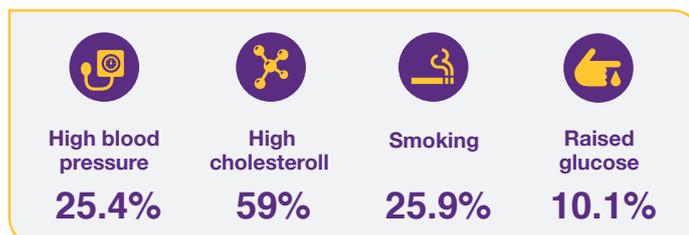
Stroke in Malta:



Estimated increase 2015–2035:



Risk factor prevalence:



The Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention has suggested targets for lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, as well as activities to increase public awareness of risk factors/lifestyle changes.

Anticoagulant treatment rates:

No data has been published to demonstrate the use of oral anticoagulants in Malta, however:

- Thrombolysis was introduced to Mater Dei Hospital in 2010. According to the hospital audit, 4 patients (1.6%) were thrombolysed in 2012
- Thrombectomy has been performed at Mater Dei hospital since 2015

