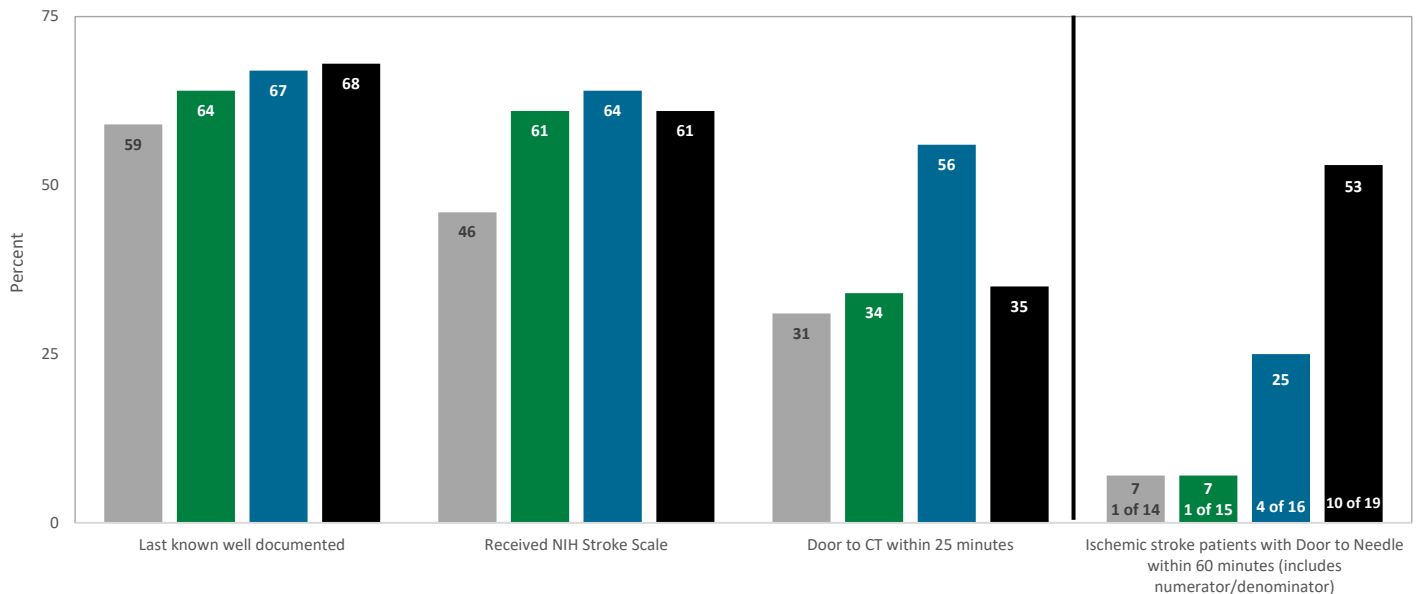




Percent of stroke patients arriving at a stroke recognized Critical Access Hospital who had documentation of last known well, received an NIH Stroke Scale, had an Emergency Department arrival (Door) to CT within 25 minutes, and ischemic stroke patients with door to needle (t-PA administered) within 60 minutes, Montana, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017



## Background:

- The Stroke Recognition Award, coordinated by the Montana Cardiovascular Health Program, collects important data related to the acute treatment of stroke. These data are shared with the Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) that have received the award and are intended to be a catalyst for quality improvement activities with the end goal of improving care. As of 2017, 11 CAH have received the Stroke Recognition Award.

## Highlights:

- Important indicators for stroke care include documenting when the stroke symptoms started (last known well), performing a stroke screen (NIH Stroke Scale) and getting brain imaging started within 25 minutes of arriving at the emergency department (door to CT).
- Focusing on these important factors, and others, have had a dramatic impact on the percentage of stroke patients receiving clot busting medication, (t-PA) (Door to Needle) within 60 minutes of Emergency Department arrival. Prompt t-PA administration can interrupt an ischemic stroke and limit disability and prevent death.

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## Data Source:

Critical Access Hospital with Stroke Recognition Reports, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017.

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