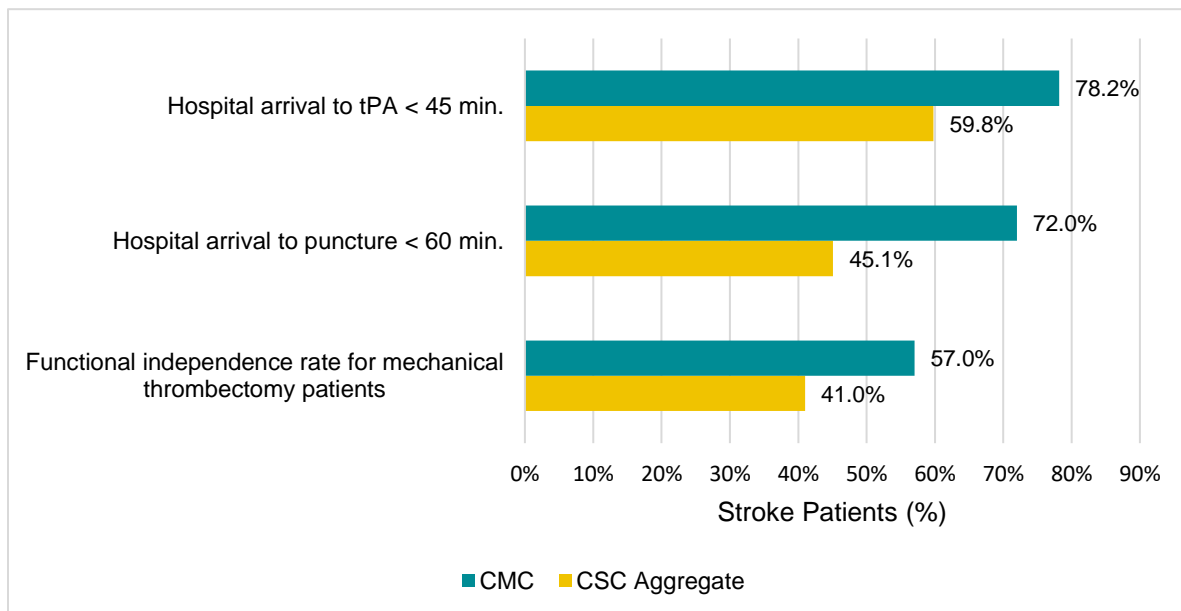


High-Quality Stroke Care at Atrium Health's Carolinas Medical Center

Carolinas Medical Center (CMC) is recognized by The Joint Commission as a Comprehensive Stroke Center (CSC), the highest certification for care. CMC has also earned the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke Gold Plus and Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus, which recognize the consistent quality of our patient care.

To earn these designations, hospitals must meet national stroke-care standards. CMC consistently outperforms these standards, demonstrating faster care and better outcomes than other CSCs overall.

2018 Performance & Outcomes: CMC vs. CSC Aggregate



Source: Get With The Guidelines - Stroke, American Heart Association

The nation's top hospitals administer tPA (a clot-busting drug) within 60 minutes of a patient's arrival. In 2018, most CMC patients (78.2%) received tPA in 45 minutes or less, compared to 59.8% of patients at CSC overall.

According to national guidelines, stroke patients who need surgical clot removal should begin the procedure (puncture) within 90 minutes of arriving at the hospital. In 2018, the door-to-puncture time for most patients (72%) at CMC was within 60 minutes, compared to 45.1% of patients at CSC overall.

CMC also reports better long-term outcomes for mechanical thrombectomy (surgical clot removal) patients. In 2018, the rate of functional independence – a measurement of how well a person can carry out basic daily activities without help from others – was 41% at CSC overall. The rate was higher among CMC patients (57%), indicating better recovery.

To learn more about our stroke care, visit AtriumHealth.org/Stroke.

