

# Data Pulse

June, 2016

## Ischemic Stroke Care at California's *Better-* and *Worse-*Performing Hospitals

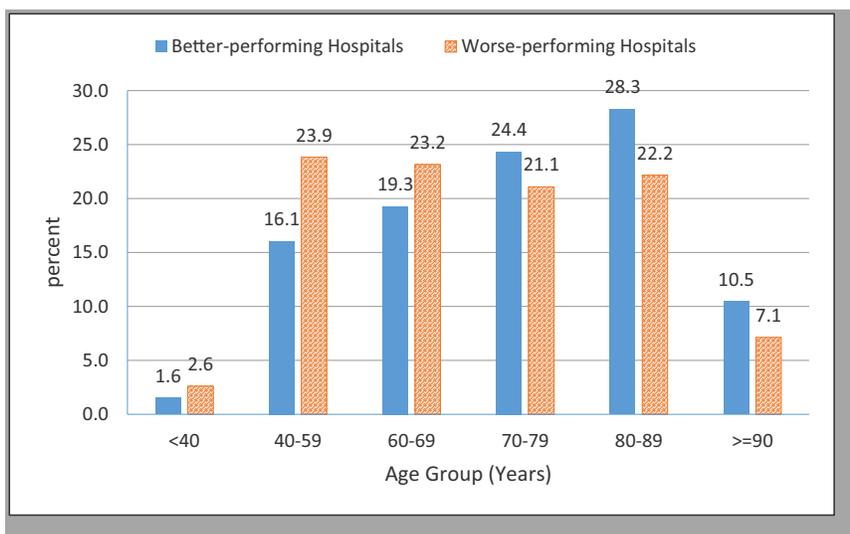
Stroke is among the leading causes of death, disability, hospitalizations, and healthcare expenditures in the nation. There is variability in the quality of stroke care in the U.S., and improvements in care can lead to better quality of life and lower mortality rates. The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) annually publishes a hospital ischemic stroke outcome report, which rates the hospital performance.

This Data Pulse presents the patient and hospital characteristics at *Better*-performing hospitals and *Worse*-performing hospitals identified in two OSHPD ischemic stroke outcome reports (2011-2012 and 2012-2013) that can be found here.

### Key General Findings:

- ◆ More than 50% of ischemic stroke patients admitted to hospitals were aged 70 and over.
- ◆ More than 75% of ischemic stroke patients admitted to hospitals were expected to pay by Medicare or Medi-Cal. *Worse*-performing hospitals served a higher percentage of Medi-Cal patients.
- ◆ *Better*-performing and *Worse*-performing hospitals did not differ by geographic location (urban versus rural) or hospital size.

*Worse*-performing hospitals served a greater percentage of young patients, whereas *Better*-performing hospitals served a greater percentage of older patients.



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[CHHS Open Data](#)

The most common type of stroke, ischemic stroke, occurs when an artery supplying blood to the brain becomes blocked. Timely interventions are critical to reverse the damage, reduce mortality and disability, and improve survivor quality of life.

This data pulse was based on OSHPD hospital reports about the quality of ischemic stroke care in California hospitals. Over 270 hospitals were rated on mortality and readmissions within 30 days following a patient's discharge from the hospital.

These reports can be found at: <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Ischemic-Stroke-Report.html>

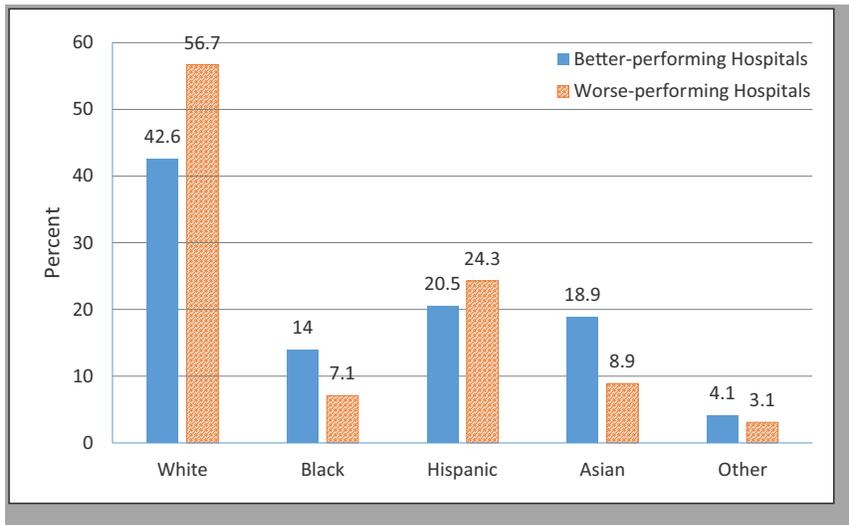
### Ischemic Stroke Open Data:

<https://chhs.data.ca.gov/Healthcare/Ischemic-Stroke-30-Day-Mortality-and-30-Day-Readmi/6yg2-gk2b>

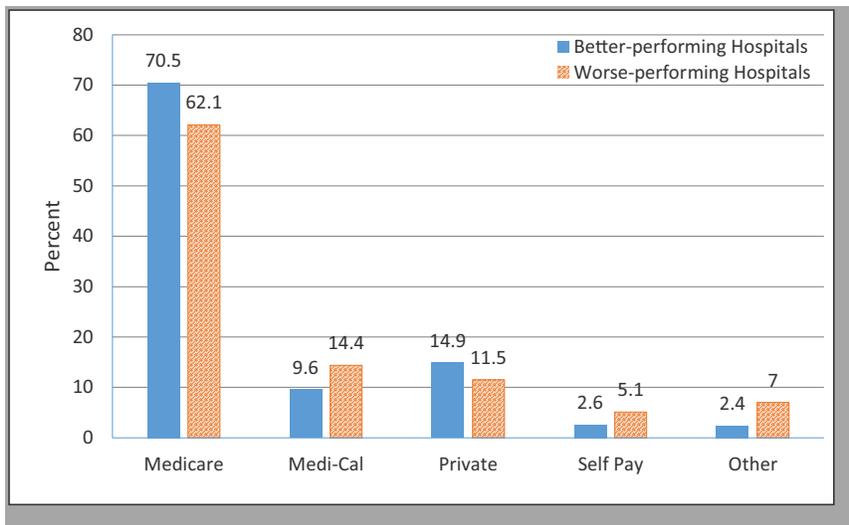
### OSHPD's Healthcare Outcomes Center:

<http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Find-Data.html>

The race/ethnicity of patients admitted to *Worse*-performing hospitals were less diverse than those admitted to *Better*-performing hospitals.



*Worse*-performing hospitals served a higher percentage of patients with Medi-Cal than *Better*-performing hospitals whereas *Better*-performing hospitals served a higher percentage of Medicare patients.



California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) is the leader in collecting data and disseminating information about California’s healthcare infrastructure. OSHPD promotes an equitably distributed healthcare workforce, and publishes valuable information about healthcare outcomes.

OSHPD also monitors the construction, renovation, and seismic safety of hospitals and skilled nursing facilities and provides loan insurance to assist the capital needs of California’s not-for-profit healthcare facilities.

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**Data source and methods**

Data used were from the California patient discharge data (PDD) 2011, 2012, 2013, collected by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). Hospitals were chosen according to their performance in the “Ischemic Stroke: Hospital Outcomes in California, 2011-2012 report, and 2012-2013 report”, produced by OSHPD. Data analyses were performed using SAS statistical software SAS Enterprise Guide Version 6.1.



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