<East Asian Neurology Forum 1>

Clinical Practice Guideline for Stroke in Korea

Hee-Joon Bae, M.D.

(臨床神経 2010;50:825)

Key words : stroke, Guideline, Korea

Stroke is the first leading cause of death in Korea. According to the National Statistics Office about 59.6 per 100,000 persons died of stroke in 2007. The rapidest aging in the history is threatening our society with the increasing burden of stroke. Narrowing the gap between knowledge and practice is one of measures against this threat. However, this strategy cannot work without the development and implementation of the evidence-based national guidelines for stroke.

In October, 2009, the Clinical Research Center for Stroke (CRCS) of Korea published the first clinical practice guideline (CPG) for stroke in Korea. The development of CPG for stroke began in 2006 with the financial support from the Korean government, and the final product, the first stroke CPG in Korea, is now endorsed by the Korean Stroke Society, the Korean Neurological Association, and the Korean Society of Geriatric Neurology. Its purpose is to assist neurologists, neurosurgeons, rehabilitation doctors, internists, family doctors, and interventionists, who are caring stroke patients, in clinical decision making. The CPG covers the most parts of stroke care; primary prevention, acute stroke management, and secondary prevention. It does not deal with childhood stroke and surgical techniques. It focuses on ischemic stroke and intracerebral hemorrhage, and does not cover subarachnoid hemorrhage. All the text of the CPG for stroke can be readily assessable and open to anyone who can read the Korean language (http://www.stroke-crc.or.kr/).

I will discuss how we did develop the CPG, what it contains, what are our next steps in the presentation.

Department of Neurology, Seoul National University College of Medicine Stroke Center [300, Gumi-dong, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do 463–707, Korea] Seoul National University Bundang Hospital (Received: 21 May 2010)