

CLOT-BUSTING TREATMENT FOR ACUTE STROKE PATIENT INFORMATION

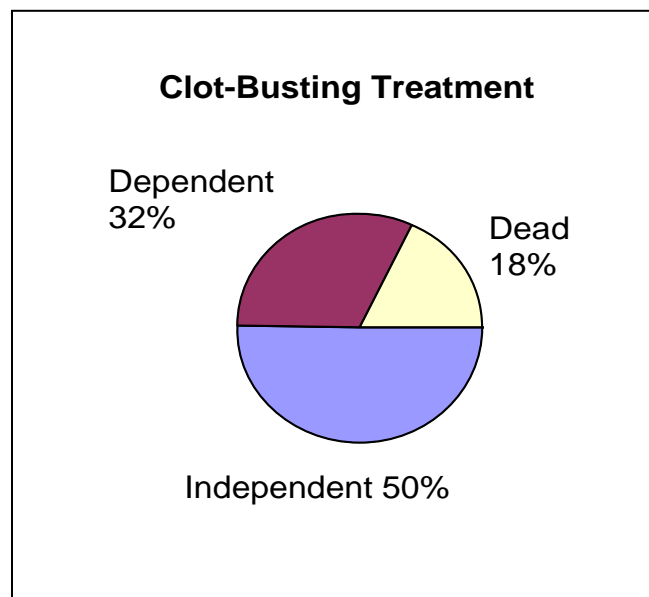
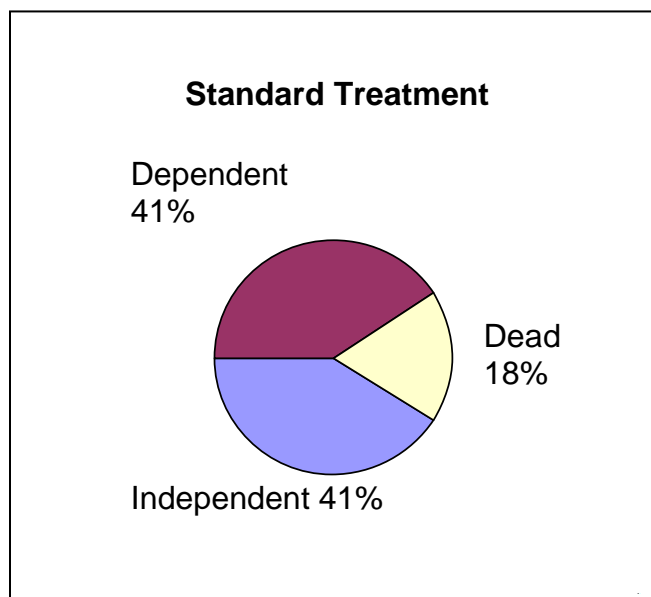
Stroke is a common condition where damage to the brain occurs due to blockage to an artery supplying blood to the brain. In your case this blockage is due to a blood clot. The most effective treatment for this is to unblock the artery with an injection of a “clot-busting” drug (Alteplase). This must be given as soon as possible after a stroke. If you have this treatment you have a greater chance of recovering fully from your stroke.

Standard

(Aspirin & supportive care)

Clot-Buster

(Thrombolysis drug Alteplase)



There is a 1 in 10 greater chance of living independently after treatment with the clot busting drug.

Although there is a higher chance of bleeding into the brain (1 in 20 with clot-busting compared to 1 in 100 without) or bleeding elsewhere immediately following this treatment and a small risk of allergic reaction, you are more likely to benefit from the treatment than come to harm. This is currently the best treatment available for an acute stroke.