

Delivering safe stroke care at hospitals without acute stroke units during the COVID-19 pandemic

Appendix 9: Benefits and risks of thrombolysis

(Taken from East of England SOP)

- Thrombolysed patients are 32% more likely to have little or no deficit at 3 months
- For every 100 patients treated:
 - 32 better, 3 worse, 65 unchanged
- IV alteplase 10 times more likely to help than harm
- Risk of bleeding 3–6%; 1–2% will suffer significant ICH/gastrointestinal bleed, which in severe cases may lead to worsening symptoms or death
- The earlier the treatment within 4.5-hour window, the better the outcome
- Rare risk of hypotension and/or angioedema