



ACT-GLOBAL: A multi-faCtorial, mulTi-arm, multi-staGe, randomised, gLOBal Adaptive pLatform trial for stroke – January 2025

FACTS:

- Approximately 15 million people worldwide suffer a stroke each year - 5 million die and 5 million are left permanently disabled.
- Stroke is the second leading cause of death globally, responsible for around 11% of all deaths.
- Over 100 million people worldwide live with stroke, emphasising the need for innovative treatment approaches.

PROJECT CYCLE:

2023 – ongoing.

PARTNERS:

The George Institute
for Global Health, Australia
University of Calgary, Canada

SUPPORTERS:

National Health and Medical
Research Council (NHMRC) of
Australia

Medical Research Future Fund
(MRFF), Australia

The Canadian Institutes of
Health Research (CIHR)

Alberta Innovates Health
Solutions, Alberta, Canada

University of Calgary, Calgary,
Canada

Hotchkiss Brain Institute,
Calgary, Canada

The George Institute for Global
Health

Boehringer Ingelheim Inc.

BACKGROUND:

- Stroke continues to be a major cause of death and disability worldwide.
- There remains an urgent need for ongoing research to develop new and more effective treatments that improve outcomes for stroke patients on a broad scale.
- ACT-GLOBAL, as a platform trial, allows for the testing of multiple treatments at the same time or in sequence.

AIM:

- To identify treatment/s with the greatest potential to improve stroke outcomes.
- To develop platform domains to test different treatments for various stroke subtypes, including acute ischemic stroke and intracerebral haemorrhage.

METHODS:

- ACT-GLOBAL is an investigator-initiated, multi-factorial, multi-arm, multi-stage, randomised, global adaptive platform trial for stroke.
- Adaptive design allows researchers to add and collapse (if needed) research questions any time during the trial as data is obtained.
- Adaptive platform trials mimic real-world conditions, enabling researchers to study treatment interactions, safety and effectiveness, unlike a more traditional approach, which would restrict combining therapies or co-enrolment.

IMPACT

- ACT-GLOBAL's findings could lead to more effective stroke treatments, enhancing patient outcomes and reducing mortality.
- The trial's design allows testing multiple interventions, saving time and resources.
- Advancements in stroke management can reduce the societal and economic burden of stroke, improving quality of life for patients and their loved ones.

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