DEFINITIONS

- **Stroke** and **heart attack (Ischemic heart disease)** are two of the seven disease categories that comprise **cardiovascular disease (CVD)**.

- **Stroke (cerebrovascular disease)** refers to an infarct (loss of blood supply due to a blocked artery) or hemorrhage in the brain.

- **Ischemic heart disease (IHD)**, also known as coronary heart disease, refers to narrowing of the coronary arteries, which reduces blood flow and oxygen to the heart. Ischemic heart disease includes acute myocardial infarctions (“heart attacks”) and complications resulting from previous myocardial infarctions.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE DEATHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Causes</th>
<th># Deaths 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular Disease Total</td>
<td>22,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
<td>16,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ischemic Heart Disease</td>
<td>8,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertensive Heart Disease</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Heart Disease</td>
<td>6,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>4,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atherosclerosis</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STROKE DEATHS

- Stroke was the third most frequent cause of death in Georgia, accounting for **6%** of all deaths, with **4,050** stroke deaths in 2004.

- In 2004, Georgia’s stroke death rate was **21% higher** than the national rate.

- Stroke death rates were **1.4 times higher** for blacks than whites in 2004.

- **19%** of persons dying from stroke in Georgia in 2004 were less than 65 years old.

STROKE HOSPITALIZATIONS

- Approximately **23,500** hospitalizations occurred among Georgia residents due to stroke in 2004.

- The average charge per stroke hospitalization in Georgia was **$22,700** in 2004.\(^1\)

- Total hospital charges for stroke in Georgia were **$533 million** in 2004.\(^1\)

ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE (IHD) DEATHS

- Heart disease was the leading cause of death in Georgia, accounting for **25%** of all deaths, with **16,551** heart disease deaths in 2004. Of the deaths from heart disease, **8,974** were attributable specifically to ischemic heart disease.

- In 2004, Georgia’s IHD death rate was **14% lower** than the national rate.

- IHD death rates were **1.8 times higher** for men than women in 2004.

- **26%** of persons dying from IHD in Georgia in 2004 were less than 65 years old.

IHD HOSPITALIZATIONS

- Approximately **50,100** hospitalizations occurred among Georgia residents due to IHD in 2004.

- The average charge per IHD hospitalization in Georgia was **$32,000** in 2004.\(^1\)

- Total hospital charges for IHD in Georgia were **$1.6 billion** in 2003.\(^1\)
RISK FACTORS FOR STROKE AND HEART DISEASE

- Modifiable risk factors are those which can be changed in order to slow or reverse the disease process and decrease the risk of disease. Modifiable risk factors for stroke and heart attack include:
  - Smoking
  - Physical Inactivity
  - Poor Diet
  - Obesity
  - High Blood Pressure
  - High Cholesterol
  - Diabetes

PREVALENCE OF MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS AMONG ADULTS, GEORGIA, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not meeting recommended</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Fruits and Vegetables per day</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever high blood pressure(1)</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever high cholesterol(2)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The percentage of Georgians who reported having been told they had high blood pressure
(2) Of persons who had their blood cholesterol level checked, the percentage told that they have high cholesterol

THE ROLE OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN STROKE AND HEART ATTACK

- Blood pressure is defined as “controlled” if the systolic and diastolic readings are below 140 and 90 mm Hg, respectively.

- Some people can control their high blood pressure by losing weight and engaging in physical activity.

- For those who are unable to decrease their blood pressure by lifestyle modification alone, medications prescribed by a physician can often control high blood pressure successfully.

- Adults with increased blood pressure have reduced life expectancy as well as more time spent living with CVD. Life expectancy for those with controlled blood pressure is 5.1 years longer for men and 4.9 years longer for women.²

SHAPP CLINICS

- There are 137 SHAPP clinics throughout Georgia.

- SHAPP clinics are present in 16 of the 18 health districts.

SHAPP PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- 15,718 patients were served by SHAPP during the 2006 fiscal year.

- 55% of the patients were African American.

- 74% of patients were less than 65 years old.

SHAPP CONTROL RATES

- SHAPP clinics have varying blood pressure control rates, ranging from 52% to 84% with a median control rate for all clinics of 65%.

- Private health plans in Georgia had a range of control rates from 47% to 68% with a median control rate of 60% for patients treated in a private setting.³

- Nationally, 53% of patients undergoing treatment for high blood pressure are controlled.⁴

SHAPP COSTS

- The annual medication cost is approximately $12.76 per patient.

- Clinic visit costs range from $20 and $55 per visit and patients are generally seen on a quarterly basis once blood pressure control is established.

1. Hospital charges from acute care non-federal hospitals
3. Based on performance indicators on the Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS), implemented by the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

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