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## Hospitalized Stroke Patients Should Be Screened for Sleep Apnea

Patients admitted to the hospital with an acute ischemic stroke should be screened for sleep apnea using the Berlin questionnaire, according to research presented last month at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology.

The Berlin questionnaire is a validated screening tool for identifying patients at risk for sleep apnea in the primary care setting. The questionnaire assesses habitual snoring, daytime sleepiness, hypertension and body mass index. Respondents are classified as being at high or low risk for sleep apnea.

Researchers from University of Miami (Florida) School of Medicine analyzed the results obtained from 122 patients who were hospitalized with an acute ischemic stroke during a recent 10-month period and who responded to the Berlin questionnaire. Of the sample, 55 percent were at high risk for sleep apnea.

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