

Table S1 Baseline characteristic of study participants			
Characteristic	<80 years (n=14,237)	≥80 years (n=929)	P value
Age, year	62.00 (54.00-68.00)	82.00 (81.00-84.00)	<0.001
Male, n (%)	9835 (69.08)	529 (56.94)	<0.001
Living alone, n (%)	665 (4.67)	97 (10.44)	<0.001
Marital status			<0.001
Single	92 (0.65)	1 (0.11)	
Married	13474 (94.83)	753 (81.05)	
Divorced/widowed/remarried	642 (4.52)	175 (18.84)	
Insurance, n (%)			<0.001
BHIS	8434 (59.24)	642 (69.11)	
NCMS	4826 (33.90)	219 (23.57)	
Commercial	57 (0.40)	0	
Public	107 (0.75)	28 (3.01)	
Self-payment	912 (6.41)	42 (4.52)	
Education, n (%)			<0.001
Elementary or below	3903 (31.87)	389 (53.07)	
Middle school	4244 (34.66)	161 (21.96)	
High school or above	4099 (33.47)	183 (24.97)	
Pre stroke mRS 2-5, n (%)	1214 (8.53)	130 (13.99)	<0.001
Index event, n (%)			0.342
TIA	1119 (7.86)	65 (7.00)	
Ischaemic stroke	13118 (92.14)	864 (93.00)	
NIHSS at admission	3.00 (1.00-6.00)	4.00 (2.00-7.00)	<0.001
Medical history, n (%)			
Hypertension	8891 (62.45)	603 (64.91)	0.134
Diabetes mellitus	3298 (23.16)	212 (22.82)	0.809
Stroke	3134 (22.01)	221 (23.79)	0.206
TIA	400 (2.81)	16 (1.72)	0.049
Coronary artery disease	1439 (10.11)	169 (18.19)	<0.001
Heart failure	78 (0.55)	16 (1.72)	<0.001
Atrial fibrillation	452 (3.17)	100 (10.76)	<0.001
Current smoker, n (%)	4655 (32.70)	97 (10.44)	<0.001
Heavy drinker, n (%)	2081 (14.62)	45 (4.84)	<0.001
Body mass index	24.49 (22.72-26.57)	23.44 (21.20-25.71)	<0.001
Systolic blood pressure, mmHg	148.00 (135.00-163.50)	149.00 (137.00-164.50)	0.130
Diastolic blood pressure, mmHg	87.00 (79.50-96.00)	80.00 (73.50-89.00)	<0.001
Treated with rt-PA, n (%)	1236 (8.68)	67 (7.21)	0.122
Medication use at discharge, n (%)			
Antiplatelet	12943 (90.91)	796 (85.68)	<0.001
Clopidogrel with Aspirin	4368 (30.68)	188 (20.24)	<0.001
Anticoagulants	430 (3.02)	47 (5.06)	<0.001
Antihypertensive agent	6966 (48.93)	480 (51.67)	0.039
Antidiabetic agents	3364 (23.68)	182 (19.74)	0.006
Lipid-lowing agent	13021 (91.46)	838 (90.20)	0.597
Statin	12962 (91.04)	837 (90.10)	0.329
Infection, n (%)	859 (6.03)	164 (17.65)	<0.001
Composite persistence, n (%)			<0.001
Level I	2981 (21.96)	254 (29.06)	
Level II	1426 (10.51)	91 (10.41)	
Level III	9167 (67.53)	529 (60.53)	
TOAST classification, n (%)			<0.001
Large-artery atherosclerosis	3606 (25.33)	250 (26.91)	
Cardioembolism	785 (5.51)	132 (14.21)	
Small-artery occlusion	3042 (21.37)	123 (13.24)	
Other determined etiology	173 (1.22)	9 (0.97)	
Undetermined etiology	6631 (46.58)	415 (44.67)	
Positive DWI lesion, n (%)	10739 (87.84)	684 (87.02)	0.499
Infarction number n (%)			<0.001
No infarction	1517 (12.17)	103 (12.96)	
Single acute infarction	5472 (43.91)	287 (36.10)	
Multiple acute infarctions	5472 (43.91)	405 (50.94)	
Symptomatic ICAS	3360 (26.96)	291 (36.60)	<0.001
Symptomatic ECAS	669 (5.37)	53 (6.67)	0.118

BHIS, Basic Health Insurance Scheme; NCMS, New Cooperative Medical System; mRS, modified Rankin Scale; NIHSS, National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale; TIA, transient ischaemic attack; rt-PA, recombinant tissue plasminogen activator; TOAST: Trial of Org 10172 in Acute stroke treatment; DWI, diffusion weighted imaging; ICAS, intracranial artery atherosclerosis; ECAS, extracranial atherosclerotic stenosis.