

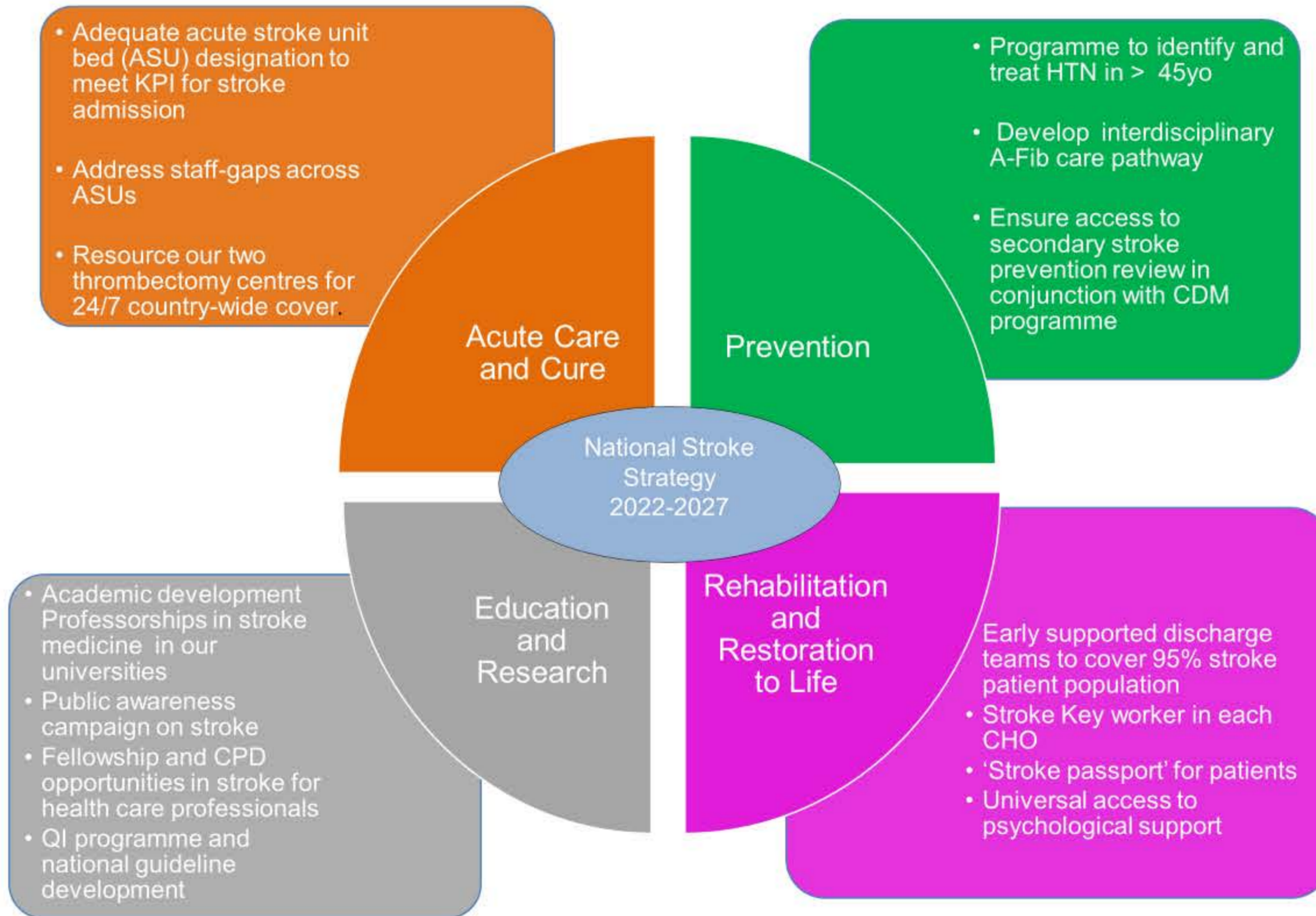
National Clinical Programme for Stroke

Development of a National Stroke Strategy



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INTRODUCTION

- Stroke is the second leading cause of death in middle-to-higher income countries and the leading cause of acquired neurological disability in Ireland¹.
- The National Clinical Programme (NCP) for Stroke was established in 2010 to reorganise and develop acute stroke services.
- There have been considerable improvements in stroke services and patient outcomes to date.

AIM

- The NCP for Stroke recognised the need for the development of a five-year National Stroke Strategy (NSS) 2022-2026 to meet the predicted 58% increase in stroke in Ireland², rapidly changing milieu of acute stroke treatment and to implement the Stroke Action Plan for Europe (SAP-E).

METHODS

- A four-pillar strategy was proposed by the NCP for Stroke to cover the areas of *prevention, acute care and cure, rehabilitation and restoration to life and research and education*.
- Multidisciplinary working groups with specific expertise in each area were set up in 2018 with the goal of identifying high-impact measures in each theme, realistically deliverable over a 4-5 year period.
- A comprehensive consultation process with relevant stakeholders took place over an 18-month period.

RESULTS

- The NSS was completed in 2020 and circulated widely for comment to all stakeholders.
- The final draft was submitted to the HSE in December 2020, approved by the office of CCO in July 2021 and adopted by the executive management team in 2022.
- The NSS represents a costed strategy of €36 million over 5 years.

CONCLUSION

- The NSS is a deliverable strategy which is fully in line with the SAP-E and represents a significant but needed investment in stroke over the next five years. The NSS will pay significant dividends for patients, healthcare and society as a whole.

References: 1 Global, regional, and national burden of stroke, 1990–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. GBD 2016 Stroke Collaborators* Lancet Neurology 2019; 18: 439-458
2 Burden of stroke in Europe Kings College London Report for the Stroke Alliance for Europe (SAFE)

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