SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Table S1. Reasons for exclusion from centre 1.

Reason for exclusion	**N = 1387**	**(%)**
Greater than 6 hours since onset of symptoms	575	41.5
Premorbid dependency mRS =/> 4	12	0.9
Dementia	34	2.5
Coma – GCS <8	3	0.2
Malignancy or significant co-morbidity thought to limit life expectancy	12	0.9
Blood glucose < 3.5mmol/L	0	0.0
Pregnancy	0	0.0
Out of hours	186	13.4
Non stroke	174	12.5
No-one to assent	8	0.6
Trial on hold	9	0.6
Poor prognosis/ Died	11	0.8
Recruited	20	1.4
Refused	7	0.5
Out of area	1	0.1
No English	2	0.1
Competing trial	13	0.9
Anaphylactic reaction to thrombolysis	2	0.1
Resolved minor stroke	8	0.6

TIA	119	8.6
ICH	170	12.3
Thrombectomy	3	0.2
Seizures/ vomiting at presentation	1	0.1
Researcher unavailable (e.g. annual leave, training, sick leave)	17	1.2

(Data not available from centre 2, which were discarded before analysis due to changes in European law on data protection (General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), see https://eugdpr.org).

Table S2. Reasons for non-compliance.

RIC group	
Dose 1	n=1 refused all cycles†
Dose 2	n=1 refused all cycles†, n=4 reduced compliance (1=cuff pressure, 1=headache, 2=cannula)
Dose 3	n=1 weekend (no researcher available to administer intervention), n=1 relative refusal, n=1 cuff pressure
Dose 4	n=1 agitated, refused remaining doses; n=1 weekend; n=1 relative refused remaining doses; n=1 cuff pressure
Dose 5	n=2 weekend, n=1 relative refusal, n=1 felt unwell on cuff release, remainder discharged
Dose 6	n=2 weekend, n=1 refused (previously felt unwell with cuff release), n=1 relative refused, remainder discharged
Dose 7	n=1 refusal, n=1 relative refusal, remainder discharged
Dose 8	n=1 refusal, n=1 relative refusal, remainder discharged
Sham	
Dose 2	n=1 deteriorated during treatment, n=1 relative refused all doses after dose 1, n=1 weekend
Doses 3&4	n=1 weekend (no researcher available to administer intervention)

† one participant refused doses 1 and 2 but was fully compliant doses 3-8
Early discharge explains the remainder of non-compliance in the sham group

Table S3. Serious adverse events.

Treatment Group	Trial number	Thrombo - lysis	Time post randomisation (days d, hours hr, minutes m)	Adjudicated Diagnosis	Day of death	Relationship
Sham	11	Y	0 d, 5 hr, 58 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke	3	Improbable
	11	Y	0 d, 6 hr, 33 m	Pneumonia		Improbable
	13	N	0 d, 15 hr, 7 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
	13	N	0 d, 0 hr, 2 m	Haematemesis		Improbable
	13	N	3 d, 12 hr, 17 m	Pulmonary embolism		Improbable
	15	N	0 d, 9 hr, 54 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
	23	N	0 d, 0 hr, 36 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
	23	N	1 d, 21 hr, 56 m	Symptomatic Haemorrhagic transformation of infarct	6	Possible
	28	Y	0 d, 3 hr, 29 m	Seizure / convulsions		Improbable
	28	Y	0 d, 0 hr, 1 m	Early neurological deterioration	4	Improbable
		Y	0 d, 22 hr, 19 m	Asymptomatic Haemorrhagic transformation of infarct		Possible
	41	Y	1 d, 22 hr, 20 m	Pneumonia		Improbable
	38	N	15 d, 22 hr, 39 m	Traumatic rectus sheath haematoma		Improbable
	38	N	6 d, 0 hr, 30 m	Urinary tract infection		Improbable
	41	Y	12 d, 23 hr, 11 m	Pneumonia		Improbable
	41	Y	31 d, 1 hr, 35 m	Urinary tract infection		Improbable
	41	Y	36 d, 19 hr, 35 m	Complication of original stroke	47	Improbable
	47	Y	0 d, 2 hr, 25 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable

	53	Y	0 d, 5 hr, 46 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
RIC	9	Y	0 d, 21 hr, 7 m	Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
	12	Y	0 d, 17 hr, 32 m	Symptomatic Haemorrhagic transformation of infarct	2	Possible
	16	N	2 d, 6 hr, 40 m	Urinary tract infection		Improbable
	22	Y	0 d, 0 hr, 0 m	Fever, undetermined source		Improbable
	39	N	7 d, 10 hr, 10 m	Symptomatic Haemorrhagic transformation of infarct		Possible
	39	N	1 d, 22 hr, 6 m	Lung Malignancy	30	Improbable
	39	N	21 d, 10 hr, 10 m	Recurrent ischaemic stroke		Improbable
	33	N	17 d, 17 hr, 55 m	Pneumonia		Improbable
	42	Y	2 d, 7 hr, 37 m	Urinary tract infection		Improbable
	35	Y	9 d, 20 hr, 5 m	Urinary tract infection		Improbable
	52	N	2 d, 23 hr, 23 m	Transient ischaemic attack		Improbable
	44	N	6 d, 19 hr, 55 m	Pneumonia		Improbable

Table S4. **Serious Adverse Events and Clinical outcomes by thrombolysis.**

Serious Adverse Event	RIC	Sham	p
Thrombolysed			
Number	16	17	
No with SAE			
Any SAE	5 (31.3)	5 (29.4)	1.0
Fatal	1 (6.2)	3 (17.6)	0.60
All stroke and ND*			
Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke	1 (6.2)	3 (17.6)	0.60
Symptomatic HTI	1 (6.2)	0	0.49
Early ND	0	1 (5.9)	1.0
Seizure	0	1 (5.9)	1.0
Limb injury	0	0	-
Not thrombolysed			
Number	15	12	
No with SAE			
Any SAE	5 (33.3)	5 (41.7)	1.0

Fatal	1 (6.7)	1 (8.3)	1.0
All stroke and ND*			
Extension/recurrent ischaemic stroke	1 (6.7)	3 (25)	0.29
Symptomatic HTI	1 (6.7)	1 (8.3)	1.0
Early ND	0	0	-
Seizure	0	0	-
Limb injury	0	0	-

Post hoc analyses, performed using 2-sided Fisher's Exact test. Data are number (%)

SAE, serious adverse event, ND neurological deterioration, HTI haemorrhagic transformation of infarction