

Empowering stroke advocates through e-learning: SSOFT

A new and exciting e-learning tool is being developed by SAFE to support Stroke Support Organisations (SSOs) around positive and effective stroke advocacy.

The Stroke Alliance For Europe (SAFE) in partnership with the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) has begun the development of a new online e-learning tool for empowering stroke advocates from across Europe. The Stroke Support Organisation Faculty Tool (SSOFT) is designed to help expand the capacity and capabilities of SSOs by developing their knowledge and understanding around how to build positive and effective advocacy campaigns for stroke prevention, diagnosis and treatment.



This e-learning tool is available online at www.ssoft.info and can be accessed anywhere, by anyone with an Internet connection. It is designed to be compatible with multiple devices including computers, smart phones and tablets. The information is structured into six e-learning modules that cover information ranging from: introducing the key principles of an SSO through the use of data to create effective messages, to approaches to developing positive and impactful public and health advocacy campaigns. The modules contain a mixture of videos, presentations and animations, ensuring that it is accessible for all, in particular stroke survivors.

In September 2017, the SAFE Board approved the appointment of Victoria Brewer as SAFE Project and Organisation Director to manage the development and delivery of SSOFT.

Module 1, 2, and 3 are now available with modules 4, 5 and 6 being released between August and November this year.

Since it was formed in 2004, SAFE has become an ever increasing advocate for Stroke Support Organisations across Europe through the growth of its membership from six to thirty organisations. SAFE's members face a variety of challenges as they work to support stroke survivors and their families, some of which are common to all Stroke Support Organisations (SSOs) and others unique to their local context. SAFE has been working over the years to support member stroke support organisations in addressing these challenges, and as such have decided to develop a Stroke Support Organisation Faculty Tool (SSOFT). This e-learning tool will provide information that will allow SSOs to create a strong foundation upon which they can continue to build the effectiveness of their organisations.

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