Appendix 1: Flowchart of search strategy and study selection

Draft of topics for the review
- Epidemiology (incidence of stroke) and differences
- Global differences in etiology (infectious disorders, including HIV, Chagas, rheumatic heart disease neurocystercicosis, tuberculosis and moyamoya disease and sickle cell disease)
- Sex differences
- Racial/ethnic differences
- Modifiable risk factors (hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, smoking, obesity, alcohol consumption and air pollution)

Identification of potentially relevant articles by searches

MEDLINE
January 2008* – January 2020

WHO Data

Total articles identified through Pubmed search + WHO articles
N= 2781

Additional citations by manual search from reference lists
N=17

Abstracts screened after removing duplicates
N=2601

Excluded
- Not ischemic stroke
- Not relevant
- Outdated
- Not young stroke specific

Articles included
N=87

Duplicates
N=180

Key literature already known to the authors
N=5

WHO Data
Abstracts screened after removing duplicates
N=2601

Supplementary material
J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry