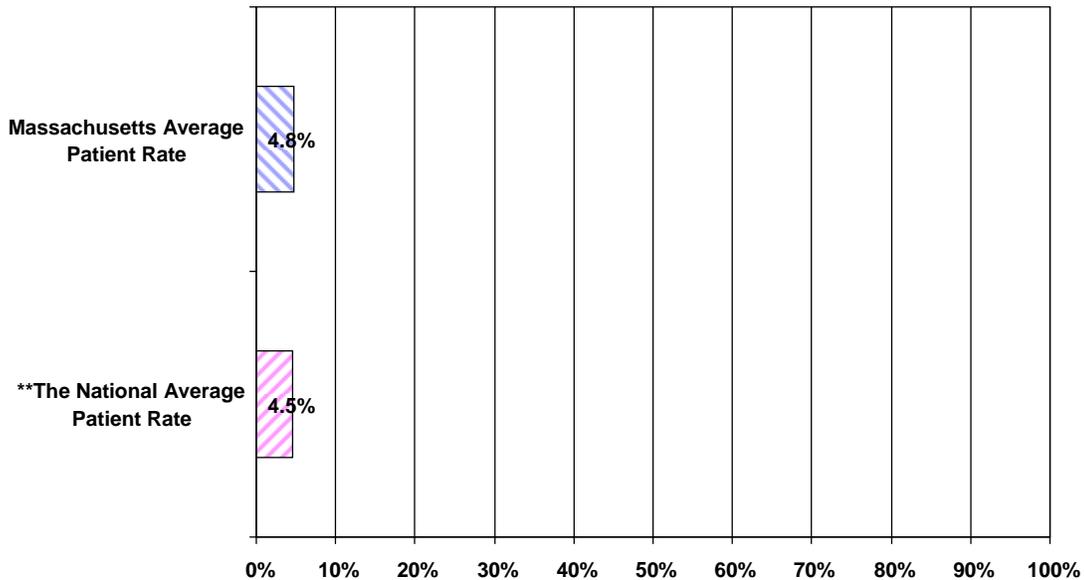


Treatment with IV-tPA

3. Percentage of all ischemic stroke patients who received IV-tPA within three hours of the time they were last known to be well at MA PSS Emergency Departments.

The following figure depicts the statewide percentage of all ischemic stroke patients who arrived at MA PSS hospital Emergency Departments within three hours of the time they were last known to be well and who received IV-tPA in 2007 and 2008. While greater than the comparable national average (4.5%), the statewide average is 4.8%. One reason why the percentages are low in both cases may be that the majority of patients arrive too late for treatment (as shown in Figures 1 & 2), but many factors contribute to determining if patients are appropriate candidates for IV-tPA.

Fig. 3. Percentage of all ischemic stroke patients who received IV-tPA



•Note: 13,188 patients arrived at 70 PSS hospitals in Massachusetts in 2007 and 2008. 295,672 patients arrived at 1,238 hospitals, nationwide.

**The national comparative statistics are provided by the American Heart Association's *Get With The Guidelines*SM-Stroke Patient Management Tool (Powered by Outcome, Cambridge, MA).