

Spot a Stroke F.A.S.T.



Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death in America.*

It's also a major cause of severe, long-term disability. Stroke and TIA (transient ischemic attack) happen when a blood vessel feeding the brain gets clogged or bursts. The signs of a TIA are like a stroke, but usually last only a few minutes. If you have any of these signs, don't wait more than five minutes before calling for help.

**According to the Centers for Disease Control.*

For more information, call 843-674-5000.

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Call 911 to get help fast if you experience any of these symptoms, but remember that not all of these warning signs occur in every stroke.

Stroke warnings signs: Think F.A.S.T.

F.A.S.T. is:

Face Drooping. Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile to better judge if facial droop is present.

Arm Weakness. Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

Speech Difficulty. Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly?

Time to call 911. If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 911 and get them to the hospital immediately.

Also, check the time so you'll know when the first symptoms appeared. It's very important to take immediate action. Research from the American Heart Association has shown that if given within 3 hours of the start of symptoms, a clot-busting drug can reduce long-term disability for the most common type of stroke.

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