Each year 795,000 people in the U.S. have a stroke.\textsuperscript{2} STROKE is an interruption of blood flow to the brain. Without oxygen-rich blood, brain cells die.

Ischemic occurs when a clot or mass blocks a blood vessel, cutting off blood flow to a part of the brain.\textsuperscript{1,2}

Hemorrhagic occurs when a weakened blood vessel, like an aneurysm, ruptures and spills blood into the brain.\textsuperscript{1,2}

About 1/4 of ischemic strokes are classified as CRYPTOGENIC, meaning the CAUSE IS UNKNOWN.\textsuperscript{3}

FINDING THE CAUSE of a stroke is important because it helps reduce the risk of another stroke.

Possible hidden causes:

- Irregular heartbeat (Atrial Fibrillation)
  - AFib patients are at a greater risk for stroke.\textsuperscript{1}

- Heart structure problem (such as Patent Foramen Ovale)

- Hardening of the arteries (Large Artery Atherosclerosis)

- Blood clotting disorder (Thrombophilia)

FIND THE FACTS at Stroke.org/CS


Supports the American Stroke Association’s Cryptogenic Stroke Initiative.