



American Stroke Association®
A division of the American Heart Association.

Together to End Stroke®

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STROKE RECOVERY HAVE NEVER BEEN GREATER

UPDATED GUIDELINES EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF QUICK ACTION

About

795,000

Americans will have a new or recurrent stroke this year.



More than

690,000

U.S. strokes are caused when a clot cuts off blood flow to a part of the brain (called an ischemic stroke).

PER YEAR

Stroke is the No. 4 cause of death in the United States, killing more than 165,000 per year.¹



LEARN AND SHARE THE WARNING SIGNS OF STROKE

Spot a Stroke F.A.S.T.

F

FACE DROOPING

Does one side of the face droop or is it numb?

ARM WEAKNESS

Is one arm weak or numb?

SPEECH DIFFICULTY

Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand?

A

TIME TO CALL 911

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

QUICK TREATMENT= LESS BRAIN DAMAGE! Importance of Getting to the Hospital Quickly



Get to the hospital at the first sign of stroke so you can be evaluated and receive treatment in time. Stroke treatment begins in the ambulance. Calling 911 can help patients get treated more quickly and get them to a hospital that specializes in stroke care.

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
WITHIN 4.5 HOURS
in select patients

IV alteplase or
tenecteplase

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITHIN
UP TO 24 HOURS
AFTER STROKE BEGINS²
in select patients

mechanical
thrombectomy

Clot busters and clot-removal procedures must be administered within a few hours of stroke symptoms to lessen the chance of being disabled after a stroke.

Mechanical thrombectomy is a procedure that can physically remove a large blood clot from a blocked artery in the brain.

911

Call 911 at the first sign of stroke.

1. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics - 2026 Update: A Report from the American Heart Association 2. Guidelines for the Early Management of Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke: 2019 Update to the 2018 Guidelines for the Early Management of Acute Ischemic Stroke

© Copyright 2026 American Heart Association, Inc, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit. All rights reserved. American Stroke Association and Together to End Stroke are registered trademarks of the American Heart Association. Unauthorized use prohibited. WF1313752 1/26