

Stroke

What You Will Learn

By the end of this section you should be able to

- List 3 signs of stroke
 - Describe the first aid actions for stroke
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Understanding Stroke

Strokes occur when blood stops flowing to a part of the brain. This can happen if there is bleeding in the brain. The signs of a stroke are usually very sudden.

It is important to recognize the signs of a stroke and get fast medical care. There are treatments that can decrease injury from a stroke and improve recovery, but these treatments must be given within the first hours after the first signs of stroke appear.

Signs of Stroke

The warning signs of stroke are

- sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
 - sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding
 - sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
 - sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
 - sudden, severe headache with no known cause
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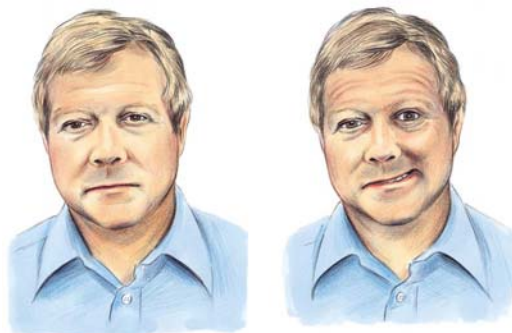


Figure 1. Signs of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.



Figure 2. Arm drift. When you ask a stroke victim to close both eyes and hold both arms straight out with the palms up, weakness on one side of the body may become more apparent.

**Actions for
Stroke**

Follow these steps if you think someone is having a stroke

Step	Action
1	Make sure the scene is safe so that the victim does not get hurt.
2	Phone or ask someone to phone your company's emergency response number (or 911) and get the first aid kit.
3	If the victim does not respond, start the steps of CPR if you know how.
