

## Brain Attack: Be in the Know About Stroke

### What is Stroke?

A stroke is a "brain attack." It can happen to anyone at any time. It occurs when an artery to the brain is either blocked or it bursts. As a result, part of the brain does not get the blood that it needs, so it starts to die. When brain cells die, abilities controlled by that area of the brain such as memory and muscle control are lost.

### Stroke in America:

- Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death
- Someone has a stroke every 40 seconds
- Every 4 minutes someone dies from a stroke
- Every year nearly 800,000 people have a stroke (610,000 are first-time strokes and 185,000 are repeat strokes)
- Stroke kills more than 130,000 people each year
- Stroke can happen to anyone, but it increases with age
- In 2009, 34 percent of people hospitalized for stroke were under the age of 65

### Types of Strokes

All strokes happen in the brain. Types of strokes include:

**Ischemic stroke** is most common and it happens when an artery in the brain is blocked.

**Hemorrhagic stroke** happens when a blood vessel in the brain bursts and it spills blood into or around the brain.

**Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)** is a mini-stroke which mimics stroke symptoms which last less than 24 hours before vanishing.

### Act FAST

Call 9-1-1 immediately at any sign of a stroke. **Remember stroke is an emergency!** Use FAST to remember warning signs of stroke:



Learn more at [stroke.org](http://stroke.org)

