

Stroke Symptoms?

Symptoms & risk factors

Symptoms of stroke vary depending on what part of the brain is affected. But a quick way to remember the possible immediate effects of a stroke is the acronym F.A.S.T., according to the American Stroke Association.

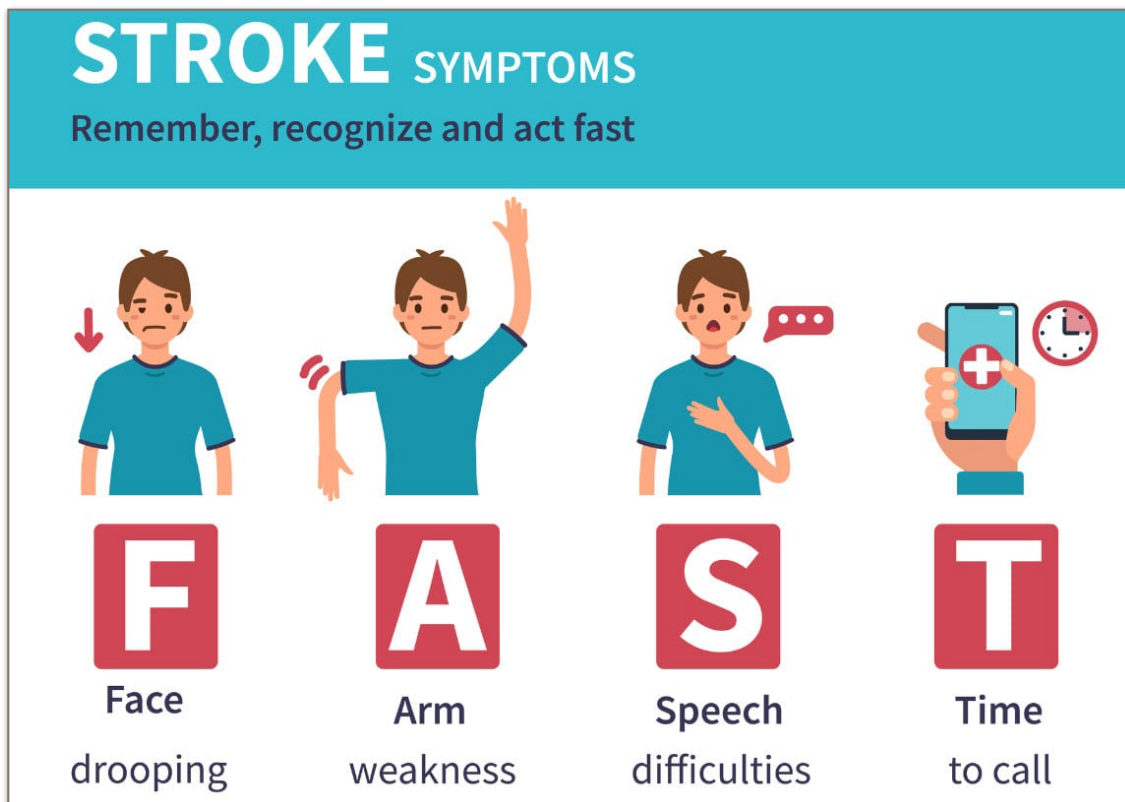
F.A.S.T. stands for:

F- Face drooping: One part of the face may be drooping or numb.

A- Arm weakness: One arm may feel weak or numb.

S- Speech difficulty: Speech may be slurred or slow

T- Time to call 911: If someone experiences these symptoms, they need medical attention immediately, even if the symptoms go away.



Pay attention to when the signs and symptoms begin. The length of time they have been present can affect your treatment options:

Trouble with speaking and understanding. You may experience confusion. You may slur your words or have difficulty understanding speech.

Paralysis or numbness of the face, arm or leg. You may develop sudden numbness, weakness or paralysis in your face, arm or leg. This often happens just on one side of your body. Try to raise both your arms over your head at the same time. If one arm begins to fall, you may be having a stroke. Also, one side of your mouth may droop when you try to smile.

Trouble with seeing in one or both eyes. You may suddenly have blurred or blackened vision in one or both eyes, or you may see double.

Headache. A sudden, severe headache, which may be accompanied by vomiting, dizziness or altered consciousness, may indicate you're having a stroke.

Trouble with walking. You may stumble or experience sudden dizziness, loss of balance or loss of coordination.