



When Stroke Strikes, Know What to Do

May is National Stroke Awareness Month. Take a few moments to learn about the signs of stroke, and what to do if you or someone else experiences one.



When a person has a stroke, the blood flow to their brain is compromised. During a stroke, every second matters—from when the stroke started up until they begin receiving treatment. The sooner treatment begins, the better the odds are for a stronger recovery.



To help people identify stroke symptoms, it's recommended to remember the acronym: **BE FAST.**



Balance - Losing balance is a sign of a stroke.



Eyes - Distorted vision is also a sign.



Face - If part of a person's face droops, they may be having a stroke.



Arms - A stroke can cause an arm to become paralyzed, or feel weak or numb.



Speech - Slurred speaking may occur during a stroke.



Time - The most important thing to remember when a stroke is suspected is that time matters most.



If you or a loved one suspect someone is having a stroke, seek medical assistance immediately. Do not attempt to travel to the hospital alone if no one else is around to take you. **Call 911 and follow the provided instructions.**

Are you concerned about your risk of experiencing a stroke? Speak with your doctor about your family history and current health concerns. Find a doctor today at weillcornell.org/doctors