

WARNING SIGNS OF STROKE

Use the letters in "fast" to spot stroke signs and know when to call 9-1-1.

F

FACE DROOPING

Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven or lopsided?

A

ARM WEAKNESS

Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S

SPEECH DIFFICULTY

Is speech slurred? Is the person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, "The sky is blue." Is the person able to correctly repeat the words?

T

TIME TO CALL 911

If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and say, "I think this is a stroke" to help get the person to the hospital immediately. Time is important! Don't delay, and also note the time when the first symptoms appeared. Emergency responders will want to know.

To Learn More

Stroke is a disease that affects the arteries leading to and within the brain. It is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the United States.

For more information about stroke including prevention, treatment and life after stroke, visit the American Stroke Association at www.strokeassociation.org.