

Recognizing a Stroke

A guide to better understand stroke warning signs and symptoms from Marshfield Clinic & Shine³⁶⁵.

Act **FAST** and call 911 immediately

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?

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 say a simple sentence. Is the sentence repeated correctly?

T

Time to call 911

- If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if they go away, call 911.
- Note the time when the first symptoms appeared.



Stroke treatment that begins within **two hours** of the first symptoms reduces long term health effect and increases chance of survival.

Other Symptoms You Should Know:

- Sudden **Numbness** or weakness of face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden **Confusion**, trouble speaking or understanding speech
- Sudden **Trouble Seeing** in one or both eyes
- Sudden **Trouble Walking**, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden **Severe Headache** with no known cause