



Every year, strokes affect almost 795,000 Americans – killing nearly 130,000 people and forever changing the lives of many who survive. It is important to recognize stroke symptoms and act fast. Immediate medical attention can save a life and limit disabilities.

If you suspect someone is suffering a stroke, use the **FAST** test to remember the warning signs:

F**FACE**

Ask the person to smile.
Does one side of the face droop?

A**ARMS**

Ask the person to raise both arms.
Does one arm drift downward?

S**SPEECH**

Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence.
Does the speech sound slurred or strange?

T**TIME**

If you observe any of these signs (independently or together), **call 911 immediately.**

Early recognition, quick intervention and new emergency treatments can help stop the brain damage and disability that often follow a stroke.