## Stroke:

A stroke — often called a "brain attack," "paralysis," or "Lakwa" — is a medical emergency where the blood supply to part of the brain is suddenly interrupted. Without oxygen, brain cells begin to die within seconds.

**⇒** Up to 33,000 brain cells die every second a stroke is left untreated.

## Major Types of Stroke:

# 1. Ischemic Stroke (Most Common)

Occurs when a blood clot blocks an artery supplying the brain.

#### 2. Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)

Often called a "mini-stroke."
Blood flow is briefly interrupted, causing temporary symptoms.

It is a warning sign for a future major stroke.

### 3. Hemorrhagic Stroke

Happens when a blood vessel in the brain bursts, causing bleeding and sudden loss of blood supply.

### Approximate Distribution:

- •87% Ischemic strokes (clot-related)
- •12% Hemorrhagic strokes

#### STROKE SYMPTOMS

BALANCE Eyes





FACIAL DROOPING

ARM WEAKNESS

SPEECH DIFFICULTIES

TIME

→ GET HELP ASAP!

# How to Recognize a Stroke? BE FAST

B - Balance

Sudden dizziness, loss of balance, or headache

E - Eyes

Blurred or double vision

F - Face

One side of face droops

A - Arms

Arm or leg weakness, inability to lift

S - Speech

Slurred, confused, or unable to speak

T - Time

Call emergency services

immediately

Even a few minutes can change the outcome.



### Primary Symptoms of Stroke

- •Sudden weakness or numbness of face, arm, or leg (especially on one side)
- •Sudden confusion or difficulty understanding
- •Sudden vision problems in one or both eyes
- •Sudden difficulty walking, dizziness, or loss of coordination
- •Sudden severe headache

#### Golden Hour in Stroke Treatment:

Time is the biggest factor influencing recovery.

First 10 minutes: Emergency assessment can begin.

Within 1 hour: Treatment may reduce long-term disability.

Within 3 hours: Lifesaving clot-dissolving medicines may still be effective.

**Up to 6 hours:** Certain advanced procedures may help reduce brain damage

### Heart Attack

- Caused by blocked blood flow to the heart
- Chest pain, arm/jaw pain, sweating

## **Cardiac Arrest**

- Heart suddenly stops due to electrical malfunction
  - Sudden collapse, no pulse, unresponsiveness

### Stroke

- Interrupted blood flow to the brain
- Difficulty speaking, weakness, facial droop, vision problems

#### Can a Stroke Be Treated?

Yes — but treatment depends on the type:

Ischemic Stroke (Clot-related): IV tPA (clot-busting drug) if given within the recommended time window

Advanced endovascular therapy to remove clots through minimally invasive procedures Hemorrhagic Stroke (Bleeding in the brain):

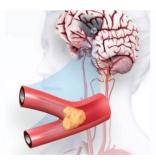
- Medications to lower pressure inside the skull
- Surgical repair of the ruptured blood vessel if required
- Immediate hospital care is critical.

#### Risk Factors for Stroke:

You are at higher risk if you have:

- High blood pressure
- Diabetes
- High cholesterol
- Heart disease
- Smoking habits
- Obesity
- Alcohol overuse
- Sedentary lifestyle
- Certain medications
- Chronic stress
- Managing these can significantly reduce risk.

"Stroke can affect anyone recognizing the signs early, can save a life."



How Can Stroke Be Prevented? Up to 80% of strokes are preventable with lifestyle changes:

- •Control blood pressure
- •Lower cholesterol
- •Quit smoking
- •Maintain a healthy weight
- •Exercise regularly
- •Eat nutritious food



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