

May is American Stroke Month

Stroke is a leading cause of death and permanent brain injury among adults in the United States. Black and Hispanic Americans have the highest risk for stroke. High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and obesity can increase your risk.

Signs of stroke may include sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm or leg (typically on one side of the body). Other warning signs include trouble seeing, walking or speaking and unexplained sudden, severe headache.

Treatment is most effective and successful when it is administered as quickly as possible after symptoms appear. Timely surgery, clot busting drugs or image-guided intracranial vascular treatments can result in a complete or near-complete recovery from the effects of stroke.

Your risk for stroke increases as you age, but some lifestyle changes – such as quitting smoking, maintaining a healthy weight, and exercising more – can help decrease that risk.

Remember— stroke is treatable when recognized quickly. Know the symptoms and get emergency medical help promptly when you see the signs.

See the stroke page (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/stroke>) for more information. For more about stroke risk, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment, visit:

Diagnosis:

- Carotid Artery Screening (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/screening-carotid>)
- Carotid Ultrasound (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/us-carotid>)
- Head CT (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/headct>)
- Catheter Angiography (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/angiocath>)
- MR Angiography (MRA) (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/angiomr>)
- Head MRI (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/mri-brain>)
- Vascular Ultrasound (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/vascularus>)
- CT Angiography (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/angiact>)

Prevention & Treatments:

- Angioplasty and Vascular Stenting (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/angioplasty>)
- Catheter-directed Thrombolysis (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/thrombo>)
- Stereotactic Radiosurgery (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/stereotactic>)
- Embolization of Brain Aneurysms and Fistulas (<https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/dc-embol>)

Disclaimer

This information is copied from the RadiologyInfo Web site (<http://www.radiologyinfo.org>) which is dedicated to providing the highest quality information. To ensure that, each section is reviewed by a physician with expertise in the area presented. All information contained in the Web site is further reviewed by an ACR (American College of Radiology) - RSNA (Radiological Society of North America) committee, comprising physicians with expertise in several radiologic areas.

However, it is not possible to assure that this Web site contains complete, up-to-date information on any particular subject. Therefore, ACR and RSNA make no representations or warranties about the suitability of this information for use for any particular purpose. All information is provided "as is" without express or implied warranty.

Please visit the RadiologyInfo Web site at <http://www.radiologyinfo.org> to view or download the latest information.

Note: Images may be shown for illustrative purposes. Do not attempt to draw conclusions or make diagnoses by comparing these images to other medical images, particularly your own. Only qualified physicians should interpret images; the radiologist is the physician expert trained in medical imaging.

Copyright

This material is copyrighted by either the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), 820 Jorie Boulevard, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2251 or the American College of Radiology (ACR), 1891 Preston White Drive, Reston, VA 20191-4397. Commercial reproduction or multiple distribution by any traditional or electronically based reproduction/publication method is prohibited.

Copyright © 2026 Radiological Society of North America, Inc.