



## DID YOU KNOW?

**STROKE OCCURS IN TODDLERS, CHILDREN, AND TEENS.  
STROKE IS AN EMERGENCY AT ANY AGE!**

### WARNING SIGNS



**IF ONE OR MORE OF THESE SIGNS  
ARE PRESENT, DON'T DELAY!**

**CALL 911 OR THE EMERGENCY SYSTEM  
IN YOUR COUNTRY!**

### ADDITIONAL WARNING SIGNS IN CHILDREN

- Severe sudden headache, especially with vomiting and sleepiness
- Sudden weakness or numbness on one side of the body (face, arm and/or leg)
- Sudden confusion, difficulty speaking or understanding others
- Sudden trouble seeing to one side or loss of vision
- Sudden difficulty walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- New-onset of seizures usually on one side of the body

**IF IT LOOKS LIKE A STROKE**

### THINK STROKE

*Signs of stroke are often missed in children and teens because there is a lack of awareness that strokes can happen in this age group.*



About **HALF** of the children presenting with a stroke have a **PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED RISK FACTOR**

**TOP 10**

Stroke is one of the **TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH** in children



The use of **tPA** (a clot busting treatment) or clot retrieval devices are **NOT FDA APPROVED FOR USE IN CHILDREN** in the U.S.

### MEDICAL CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH STROKE INCLUDE:

Sickle Cell Disease, Moyamoya Syndrome, Arterial Dissection, Autoimmune Disorders, Congenital Heart Disease, Blood Clotting Disorders

Learn more at [iapediatricstroke.org](http://iapediatricstroke.org) and [strokeassociation.org](http://strokeassociation.org)

**International Alliance**  
for Pediatric Stroke

#### Sources:

[iapediatricstroke.org/infographic.pdf](http://iapediatricstroke.org/infographic.pdf)  
[iapediatricstroke.org/2014%20AHA.fact.pdf](http://iapediatricstroke.org/2014%20AHA.fact.pdf)  
[heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@sop/@smd/documents/downloadable/ucm\\_472920.pdf](http://heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@sop/@smd/documents/downloadable/ucm_472920.pdf)

## DID YOU KNOW?

### A STROKE CAN HAPPEN TO INFANTS AND UNBORN BABIES

**Perinatal Stroke:** Usually occurs between the middle of pregnancy and delivery

#### WARNING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

##### NEWBORNS

- **Seizures**
  - Repetitive twitching of face, arm or leg
  - Apnea (pauses in breathing) associated with staring
- **Lethargy, poor feeding**

##### DEVELOPING BABIES

- **Decreased movement or weakness on one side of the body**
- **Showing a hand preference before one year of age**
- **Developmental delays**

**Newborns**—alert medical team/emergency services for possible signs of stroke

### *What to do?*

**Developing Babies**—diagnosis requires early recognition of hand preference, developmental delays or decreased movement on one side of the body. Consult with child's healthcare team which may include a pediatric neurologist. An MRI of the brain is usually required.



#### RISK FACTORS

**The cause in most perinatal strokes remains unknown.**

Some factors that could lead to stroke include:



**Congenital heart disease**



**Disorders of the placenta**



**Acute blood clotting disorders**



**Infections**

#### FACTS

- **LESS THAN 1%** of children with perinatal stroke will go on to have more strokes
- Recurrence in subsequent pregnancies is also **VERY RARE (<1%)**
- Affects about **1 IN 2,000** live births

**60%**

will have permanent neurological deficits, which may include:  
**one-sided weakness, epilepsy, speech and language difficulties, visual impairments, learning and memory problems, behavior changes**

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