



Stroke Warning Signs

University of
Pittsburgh
Medical Center
Information
for Patients

Learn the signs.

When a person is about to have a stroke, there are warning signs. Some of the signs are physical, and other signs are mental. Learn the warning signs of stroke.

What are the warning signs?

Here are the warning signs of stroke:

- numbness, weakness, or paralysis of the face, arm, or leg (on one or both sides of the body)
- vision that suddenly blurs or decreases (in one or both eyes)
- trouble speaking or understanding
- dizziness, loss of balance, or an unexplained fall
- difficulty swallowing
- sudden, severe headache that is unexplained
- sudden confusion

When you spot the warning signs and take action, you may be able to prevent a stroke. If a stroke occurs, taking action may mean that the damage is less severe.

Act fast!

When you or someone you know has one or more warning signs of stroke, **take action immediately**. Call **911** or your local ambulance service. Contact your doctor right away, too, so proper measures can be taken quickly.

Do not ignore the warning signs — they are very serious! Call 911.



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For help in finding a doctor or health service that suits your needs, call the UPMC Referral Service at 412-647-UPMC (8762) or 800-533-UPMC (8762).

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