

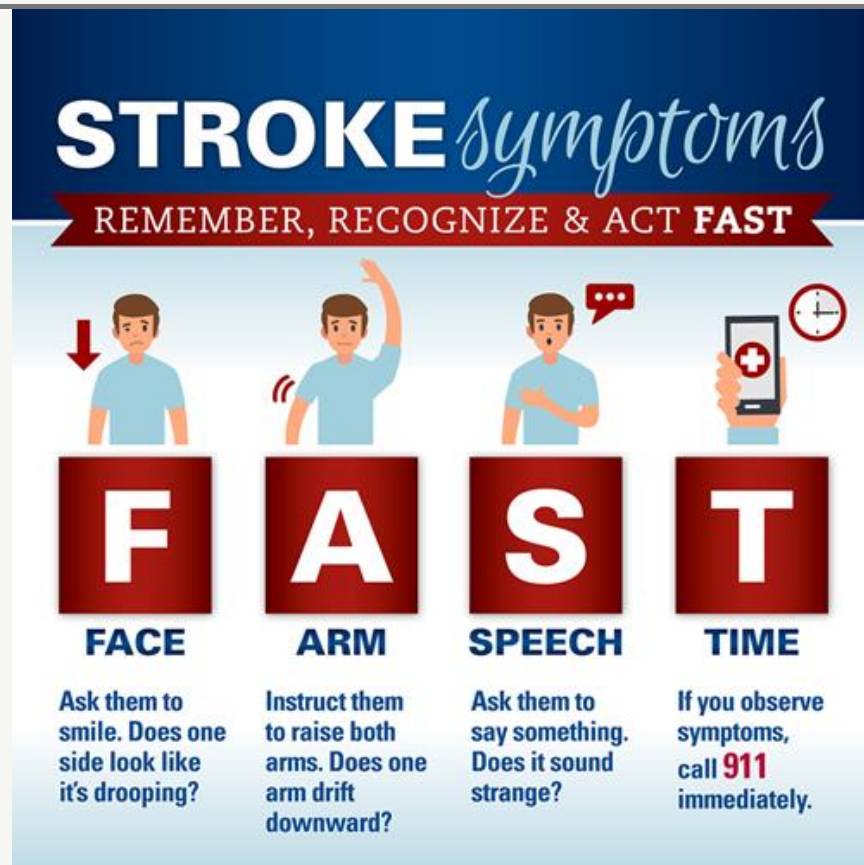
SUSPECT A PERSON IS HAVING A STROKE

1. Stay Focused and Take Action Quickly

As frightening as it can be to witness someone having a stroke, taking a few key steps — and avoiding others — can potentially help your loved one have the best possible outcome.

A stroke is often described as a “brain attack.” Part of the brain is robbed of the oxygen and blood supply it needs to function, because a blood vessel to part of the brain either has a clot or blockage, or bursts. The longer a stroke goes untreated, the more brain cells die. But there are treatments that can be given if a person reaches the hospital in time.

2. IF SUSPECT STROKE CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY



3. Note the time you first see symptoms

A clot-busting medication called tPA, or tissue plasminogen activator, can be given to someone if they're having a stroke, potentially reversing or stopping symptoms from developing. But it has to be given within 4.5 hours of the start of symptoms.

4. DO NOT

Do not let that person go to sleep or talk you out of calling 911

Do not give them medication, food, or drinks

Do not drive yourself or someone else to the emergency room