# STROKE, WHAT YOUNEED TO KNOW

# Raising awareness to improve stroke outcomes in our community

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#### WHY SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT STROKE?

- It can affect anyone.
- It does not discriminate.
- It can occur at any age.
- Quick response reduces risk of long term disability
- Understanding of risk factors for stroke empowers people to make the necessary lifestyle changes
- Stroke affects mental and emotional wellbeing, physical wellbeing.

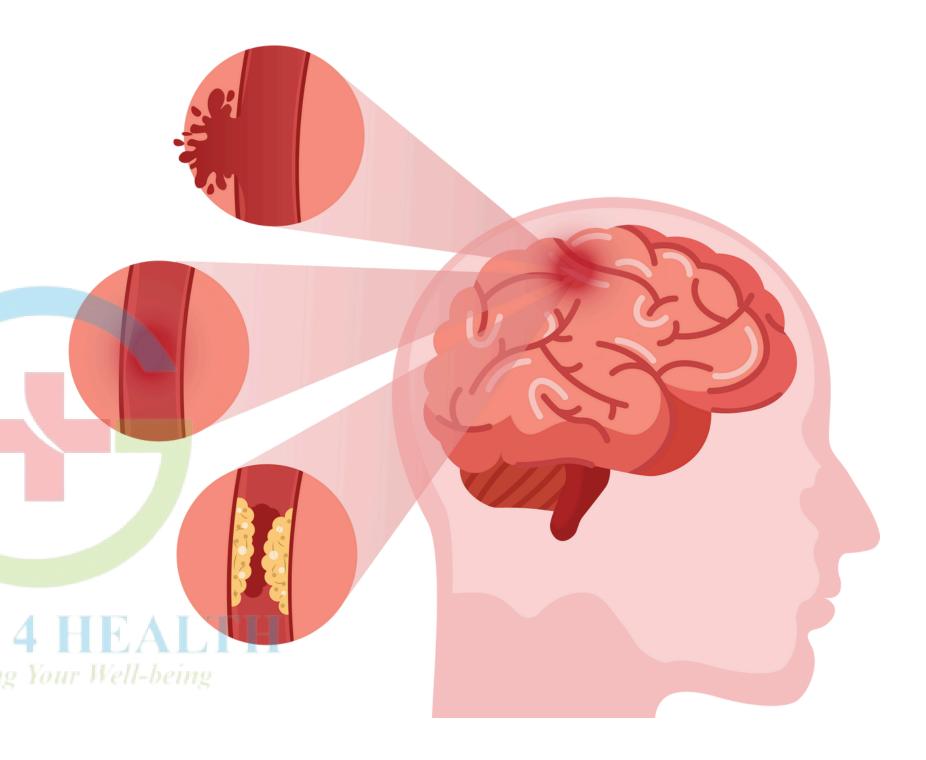
## WHAT IS A STROKE

Stroke results from interruption of blood flow to part of the brain

This can occur due to either;

burst of a blood vessel (bleed into the brain),

or blockage of blood flow (ischaemic ) majority 87%



If we think of our blood vessels as pipes,

A burst pipe or blocked pipe results in reduced flow or No flow through the pipe.

In the brain reduced flow or no flow means reduced flow or no flow of oxygen and required nutrients to the part of the brain affected.



# WHAT IS A TIA



This occurs when there is blockage of blood flow (ischaemic ) but lasting for a short time and the blockage reopens.

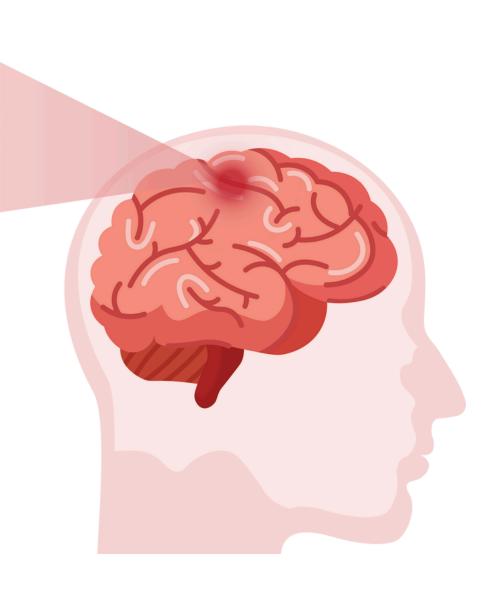
People develop temporary stroke like symptoms.

TIA is sometimes refferred to as "MINI STROKE" ing Your Well-being

A TIA is an Alarm bell. It signals that you at a high risk of develop a stroke in the future.

About 12% of strokes are preceded by TIA

It should not be ignored



## STROKE FACTS

2nd leading cause of death and disability in Africa.

Incidence is highest in Sub Saharan Africa due to HIV.

High Blood pressure is the most common comorbidity associated with stroke.

Majority of patients present after Thrombolyis window (after 4.5 hrs)

ALL IN 4 HEALTH

Every 4 minutes someone dies of a stroke.

Majority of strokes are preventable (up to 80%)

# Every minute 1.9 million nerve cells are destroyed. TIME IS BRAIN

### STROKE RISK FACTORS

Controlable risk factors

#### Lifestyle related

High blood pressure

Diabetes

Smoking

Diet

Physical inactivity

Obesity

High blood cholesterol



Not related to lifestyle

Heart diseases;
Coronary artery disease
Atrial fibrillation
Valve disorders

High blood pressure is the stongest risk factor linked with stroke.

## STROKE RISK FACTORS

#### These are not within our control

Age: increases with age

Family history. Esp if they had a stroke before the age of 65

Ethnicity: African higher than Caucasian

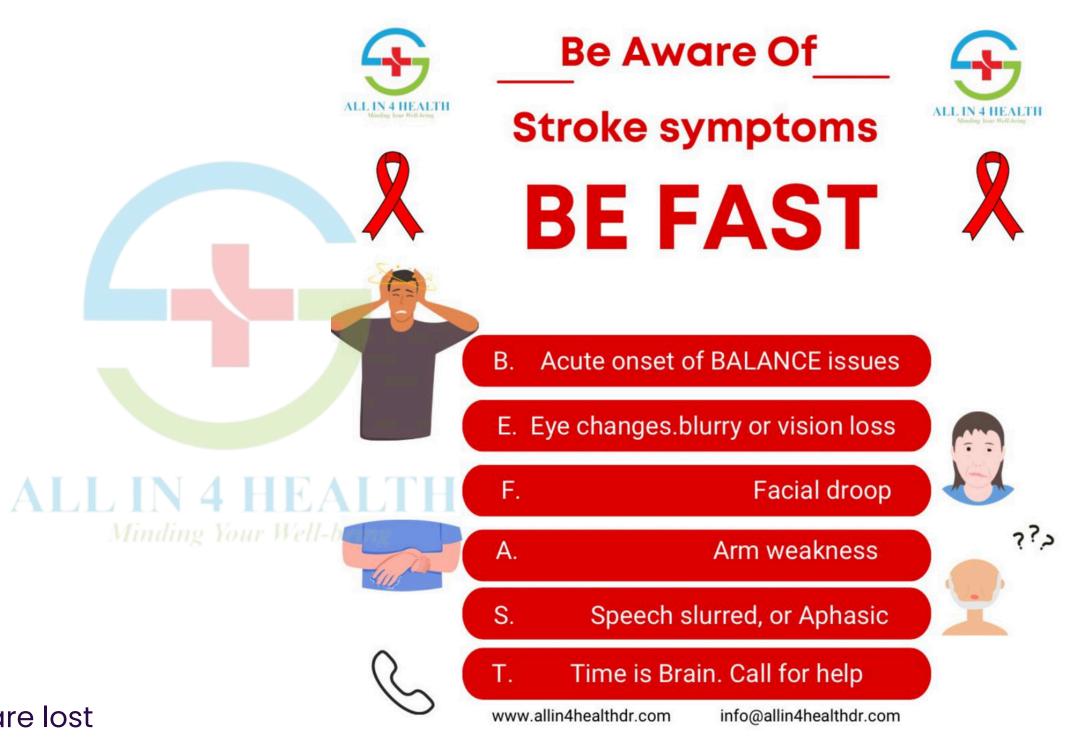
Gender: Women

### HOW TO RECOGNISE A STROKE

#### "BE FAST"

SUDDEN ONSET

Eye changes
Facial droop
Arm weakness
Speech changes
Time , Call for help quickly



Time delayed to hospital = More brain cells are lost

#### HOW TO PREVENT A STROKE

Lifestyle modifacation and medications are needed to lower your risk



- Stop smoking
- Reduce alcohol intake
- Reg exercise 30mins/day
- weight loss
- Reduce salt intake

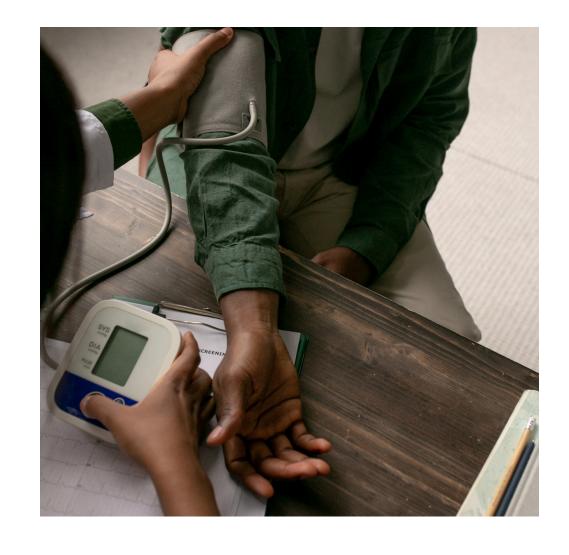


#### HOW TO PREVENT A STROKE

If needed doctor will prescribe medications to control;

- Bad cholesterol
- High blood pressure
- Diabetes or blood sugar levels
- Medications to prevent clots such as Aspirin or blood thinners





Always consult to understand your risk factors and safety profile before taking medications

Compliance to medication is advised!

# WHEN STROKE STRIKES

Call for help.

Get to the hospital as soon as possible.

This will aid in quick diagnosis and early treatment.

Most immediate investigation to be done is a CT scan to check for a bleed or not



If there is no bleed a clot busting drug is given if you are within the 4.5hr window.

If it is after 4.5 hrs you will get antiplatelets

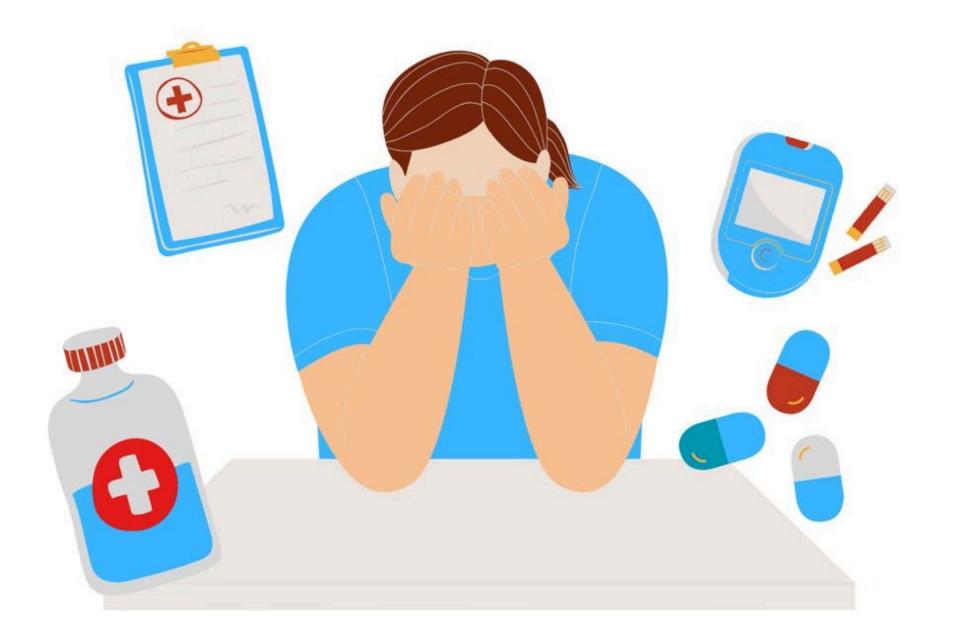
You will get medicines to prevent new blood clots.

The risk of recurrent stroke is high.

# you and/or your family struggling to understand the information given?

We understand that the recovery process can be overwhelming and full of questions.

That's why we're reaching out to extend our free support and provide you with valuable information to help you navigate this challenging time.





#### THE PAGES FOR RELIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION

- **11** ALL IN 4 HEALTH
- **@ALLIN4HEALTHDR**
- **WWW.ALLIN4HEALTHDR.COM**
- STROKEANDMENTALHEALTHNETWORK

DROP AN EMAIL TO SCHEDULE THAT FREE HEALTH CHAT WITH DOC

MINFO@ALLIN4HEALTHDR.COM

LINK TO SCHEDULE CHAT IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON SOCIAL PAGES