WHEN IT COMES TO STROKE, IT’S OK TO OVER-REACT

EMS IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

On average, 1 stroke occurs every 40 seconds in the United States1

• Stroke is the fifth-leading cause of death in the United States, and a leading cause of disability2,3

EMS is the first medical contact for 64% of stroke patients4

• Standardized emergency medical services (EMS) protocols and procedures to rapidly assess and transport patients are important for proper patient care

“...I called 911 the second I thought my husband might be having a stroke. And that helped save his life.”

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BETTER STROKE OUTCOMES BEGIN WITH FASTER STROKE RECOGNITION

Quickly identifying the 10 symptoms of stroke and calling 911 can make a difference

Public awareness of signs and symptoms of stroke remains poor

- Calling 911 within 1 hour of symptom onset is done in fewer than 50% of stroke cases
- Fewer than 50% of callers knew they were calling about a stroke-related symptom
- In spite of benefits of 911 and emergency medical services (EMS) use, a National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) showed that only 53% of stroke patients used EMS

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ENCOURAGE EVERYONE IN YOUR COMMUNITY TO VISIT AND LEARN THE 10 SYMPTOMS OF STROKE

10 SYMPTOMS OF STROKE

1. Confusion
2. Difficulty understanding
3. Dizziness
4. Loss of balance
5. Numbness
6. Severe headache
7. Trouble speaking
8. Trouble walking
9. Vision changes
10. Weakness

YOUR QUICK ACTION IS CRUCIAL TO ELEVATING STROKE CARE

Enhancing EMS stroke recognition and adequate prehospital care lowers mortality and reduces long-term disability\(^1,2\)

As an EMS professional, your role is critical in optimizing stroke care to help lower mortality and long-term disability associated with stroke

- Ensure you know your region’s routing protocols and the stroke capabilities of hospitals in your area
- Request performance metrics from emergency medical services (EMS) data capture to review and identify areas of improvement
- Educate community in recognizing the 10 symptoms of stroke and learn how to BE FAST by taking urgent action; calling 911 and using EMS helps provide optimal prehospital stroke care\(^1\)

\[\text{Balance} \quad \text{Eyes} \quad \text{Face} \quad \text{Arm} \quad \text{Speech} \quad \text{Time}\]

Balance
Watch for sudden loss of balance

Eyes
Check for visual field loss

Face
Look for a drooping mouth or uneven smile

Arm
Check if one arm is weak

Speech
Listen for slurred speech

Time
Call 911 right away

ANY ONE OF THESE SUDDEN SIGNS COULD MEAN A STROKE

VISIT TODAY TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY ABOUT STROKE

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