

UWMC ED Triage RN Stroke Screening

I. Stroke Symptoms:

1. Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of body
2. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech
3. Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
4. Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
5. Sudden severe headache with no known cause

II. FAST Stroke Screen (*Face-Arm-Speech-Time*):

- Facial droop?
 - *Have patient smile or show teeth*
 - Normal: both sides of face move equally
 - Abnormal: one side of face does not move at all
- Arm drift?
 - *Extend arms, close eyes, palms up*
 - Normal: both arms move equally or not at all
 - Abnormal: one arm drifts compared to the other
- Speech?
 - *Ask them to repeat, "Seattle is rainy in the winter"*
 - Normal: patient uses correct words with no slurring
 - Abnormal: slurred or inappropriate words or mute
- Time?
 - Time of onset is < 6 hrs?
 - Last seen normal?

III. If patient has:

1. Any of the 5 stroke symptoms, &/or
2. Any abnormal findings on the Fast Screen, &
3. Symptoms are less than 6 hours in duration

→ **Alert charge RN & Attending MD of possible CODE STROKE**

→ **Room patient immediately & inform care RN**