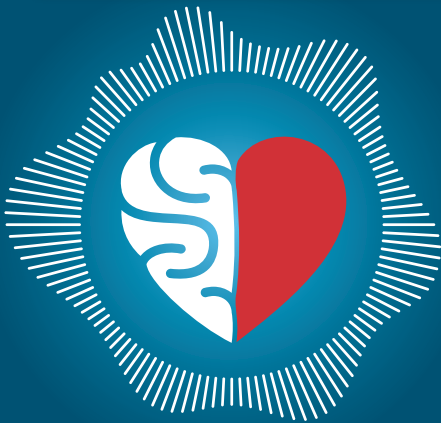


## UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE:



# STROKE vs. HEART ATTACK

While strokes and heart attacks share some similarities, they are distinct medical emergencies with **unique causes, symptoms, and treatments**.

Let's break down the key facts and statistics to help you differentiate between the two medical experiences and recognize and respond to these conditions promptly.

### STROKE FACTS

- Blood flow to the brain is blocked
- In the United States, someone has a stroke every 40 seconds, totaling approx. 795,000 people each year.

### STROKE SYMPTOMS

- Symptoms can occur suddenly and last between a few minutes to several days.
- Often presents with sudden blurred vision, facial drooping, arm weakness or sudden numbness, or slurred speech.

### WHAT TO DO WHEN EXPERIENCING A STROKE

- Call 911 immediately — it's always an emergency. One symptom is enough reason to ensure the best chance to survive and thrive.
- Do not take any medication as they can make conditions worse — medications like aspirin can cause more bleeding

### STROKE TREATMENT

- Emergent treatment may include clot-busting medication and/or mechanical clot removal (thrombectomy).
- Can result in permanent brain damage or death
- Often requires rehabilitation



### HEART ATTACK FACTS

- Blood flow to the heart is blocked
- In the United States, someone has a heart attack every 40 seconds, totaling approx. 735,000 people each year.

### HEART ATTACK SYMPTOMS

- Symptoms can occur suddenly and last between a few minutes to several hours.
- Often presents with discomfort from chest into arms and shoulders, jaw, neck or back pain, shortness of breath, or weakness or lightheadedness.

### WHAT TO DO WHEN EXPERIENCING A HEART ATTACK

- Call 911 immediately — it's always an emergency. One symptom is enough reason to ensure the best chance to survive and thrive.
- Ask emergency dispatch if chewing an aspirin is advisable

### HEART ATTACK TREATMENT

- Emergent treatment may include clot-busting medication and/or mechanically opening the blockage (angioplasty and/or stenting).
- Can result in serious heart conditions or death
- Often requires rehabilitation

