



What Is a Stroke?

A healthy brain depends on healthy blood flow to carry oxygen and nutrients to its 86 billion cells. When that blood flow is interrupted and can't reach a part of the brain, it's called a stroke. Brain cells can't survive long without oxygen; once these cells die, they cannot be resuscitated. As a result, the functions controlled by that part of the brain are lost permanently.

Types of Strokes:

- **Ischemic Strokes (clots)** – Occurs when a blood vessel supplying blood to the brain is blocked. It is the most common type, accounting for 87% of strokes.
- **Hemorrhagic Strokes (bleeds)** – Occurs when a ruptured blood vessel causes bleeding in the brain and stops oxygen and nutrients from reaching brain cells.

A stroke can impair many abilities, including:

- Vision
- Movement and sensation
- Speech and language
- Eating and swallowing
- Emotional control
- Perception and orientation to surroundings
- Cognitive (thinking, reasoning, judgment, and memory) ability

Stroke Stats:

- The chance of having a stroke doubles every decade after 55 years old
- 800,000 people yearly have a stroke — one person every 40 seconds
- Stroke is the third leading cause of death among Americans — killing about 140,000 people yearly

Did you know:

75% of strokes affect people 65 or older

For more information on strokes and how CorsoCare can support you and your loved one, call us at 248-438-8535.