

# STROKE

## Management of a stroke



### Signs & symptoms

- sudden decrease in level of consciousness
- weakness or paralysis, especially on one side of the body
- feeling of numbness in face, arm or leg
- difficulty speaking or understanding
- unexplained dizziness
- disturbed vision
- loss of balance
- confusion

### Management

1. Follow DRSABCD
2. Ensure call for an ambulance has been made (triple zero 000)
2. Calm and reassure the patient
3. Conscious patient
  - support head and shoulders on pillows
  - loosen tight clothing
  - maintain body temperature
  - wipe away secretions from mouth
  - ensure airway is clear and open
4. Unconscious patient
  - place in recovery position

### National Stroke Foundation

[www.strokefoundation.com.au](http://www.strokefoundation.com.au)

If you recognise the signs of STROKE act **FAST**:

- **F**acial weakness
- **A**rm weakness
- **S**peech difficulty
- **T**ime to act fast

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In an emergency, call triple zero (000) for an ambulance

For more information on St John first aid training and kits, visit [www.stjohn.org.au](http://www.stjohn.org.au) or freecall 1300 360 455

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