

STROKE TREATMENT

Recovery Stats

- 10% of stroke survivors recover almost completely
- 25% recover with minor impairments
- 40% experience moderate to severe impairments that require special care
- 10% require care in a nursing home or other long term facility
- 15% die shortly after the stroke
- Approximately 14% of stroke survivors experience a second stroke in the first year following their stroke

Immediate Treatment

Once a stroke patient is admitted to the Emergency Department all measures are taken to dissolve the clot or stop the bleed. The only FDA approved treatment for stroke is t-PA, also known as a ‘clot buster’, which is a medication that can dissolve a blood clot. t-PA can only be given within the first 3 hours after the symptoms begin. This is why it is important to **CALL 9-1-1 AND GET TO THE HOSPITAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Other medications that can be prescribed following a stroke are used to help control blood pressure, reduce the risk of clot formation, reduce brain swelling, and to correct irregular heart beats.

Rehabilitation

The word rehabilitation comes from the Latin word “habilitas” which means to “make able again”.

More than 700,000 people have a stroke each year in the U.S and about two-thirds of these people survive and require rehabilitation. The goal of rehabilitation is to help the stroke survivor regain as much function and independence as possible and to positively impact his or her quality of life.

Advanced Therapy at Sharon Hospital provides inpatient and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy for stroke survivors. Please call (860) 364-4065 to find more information about our stroke rehabilitation services.

A **Community Stroke Group** is also available at Sharon Hospital for stroke survivors to communicate in comfortable atmosphere with other stroke survivors. This group meets every Friday at 11:00 am at Advanced Therapy at Sharon Hospital.