# SUSSEX is Our COUNTY Specialty

# Stroke is a Lesson of Timely Care

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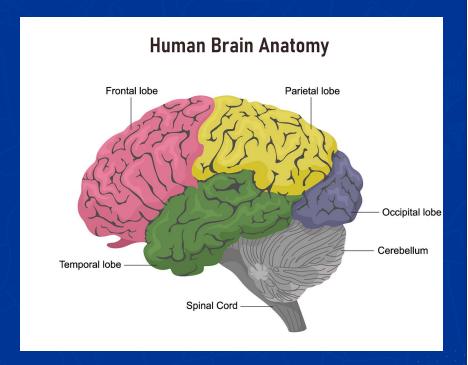
## Agenda

- Stroke Can Affect Anyone
- Understanding Stroke
- Treatment
- My Story





## Where Stroke Occurs The Brain

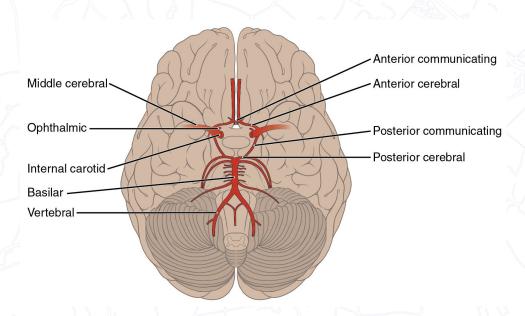








## The Brain





#### Types of Stroke

### Ischemic vs Hemorrhagic

#### **Ischemic (Clot)**

- Caused by a blockage of cerebral artery
- Most common (~87%)
- Results in tissue death by preventing sugar and oxygen from getting to the brain
- Can be transient (TIA)
- Often precede an acute stroke

- Hemorrhagic (Bleed)
- Caused by a ruptured vessel, causes bleeding into or on the brain
- Disrupts brain function
- Causes tissue death



#### Stroke Risk Factors

#### Non-Modifiable

- Age: Doubles with each decade over age 55
- Gender: More men have strokes, however more women die from strokes
- Race: African Americans have higher risk of death and disability. Latinos and Asians also have increased risk.
- Family History: Stroke, Heart Disease and/or diabetes

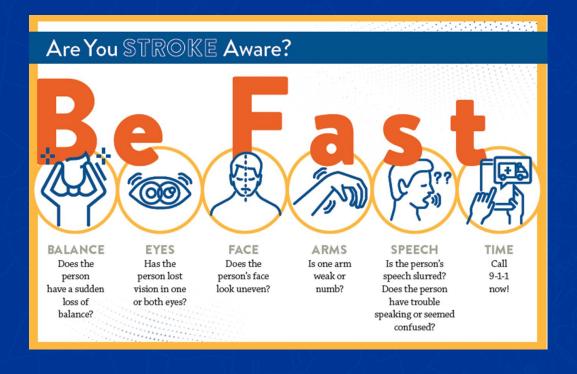
#### Modifiable

- Smoking
- Alcohol Use >4 drinks a day
- Illicit drug use
- Sedentary lifestyle
- Obesity (BMI>30)
- High Blood Pressure >140/90
- Atrial Fibrillation
- High Cholesterol
  - LDL >70
  - Total Cholesterol >200
- Obstructive sleep apnea



### Signs and Symptoms

### **BE FAST**





## Stroke Work Up

- Imaging
  - o CT Head
    - CTA head and neck (looks for clot)
  - o MRI
- Blood Work
- EKG
- Consultation with Jefferson Health Neurology via robot

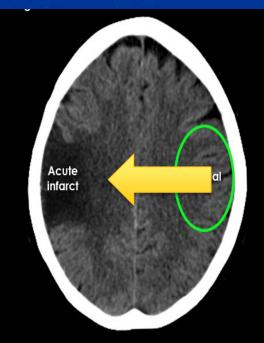




## CT Images of Stroke







## **Treatment Options**

#### **Thomas Jefferson University**

- Tertiary care center transfer
  - Advanced care requiring neurosurgery
  - Embolectomy or thrombectomy treatment
  - Beebe has a terrific partnership

#### **Beebe Healthcare**

- Admission for observation and further testing
  - Usually only hospitalized for 24-48 hours
- Follow up outpatient with neurology
- Outpatient resources provided as necessary



## **Treatment Goals**



- Preventing a second brain injury from another TIA or stroke
- Education on individual risk factors
- Encourage taking control of your health
  - Medication compliance
  - Lifestyle modifications
- Returning to prior level of function as quickly as possible



## Control Your Risks

- Healthy Diet
  - Low fat, low salt, low cholesterol
- Exercise Daily
  - 15-30 minutes a day
- Stress Reduction
  - Yoga, meditation, walking
- Sleep
  - o 8-10 hours day
- Take Health Control
  - Take your medications as prescribed
  - Monitor your blood pressure
  - Monitor your blood sugar
  - Know your family history
  - Know your history



## Medications to help lower your risk

- Antiplatelet Medications
  - Inhibit formation of blood clots
    - Examples: Aspirin, Brilinta, Plavix
- Anticoagulation Therapy
  - Thing blood, reduce potential of clot formation
    - Examples: Coumadin, Eliquis, Xarelto
- Blood Pressure Medications
  - Reduce blood pressure
    - Examples: Lisinopril, Cozaar, Metoprolol, Amlodipine
- Cholesterol Reducing Agents
  - Lower cholesterol
    - Examples: Crestor, Lipitor, Zocor
- Diabetic Medications with CVD Benefits
  - Control diabetes to lower stroke risks
    - Examples: Victoza, Ozempic, Trulicity



## My Stroke Story

- March 8, 2024, I was in my office like any other day.
- Emergency Clinical teams sprang into action just like for any other patient.
- I was airlifted to Jefferson Health.
- Proud to say I've made a full recovery.





#### **Healthcare Careers**

## My Healthcare Journey

- Born and raised to be a doctor.
- Pediatrics residency at the US Naval Hospital in Oakland, California,
- Pediatric neurology fellowship at the Medical College of Virginia.
- Served for 24 years in the Navy.
- Entered healthcare as a physician leader.
- Joined Beebe as President & CEO in March 2020.





## QUESTIONS?

beebehealthcare.org



## THANK YOU

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Learn about how we care for the people of Sussex County.

beebehealthcare.org

