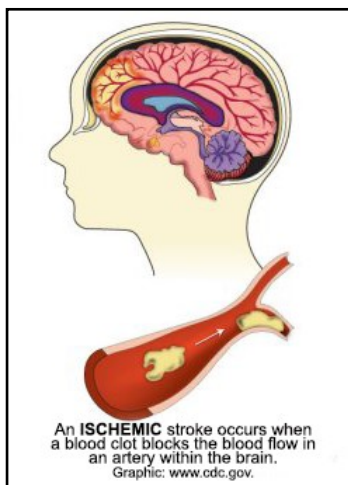


# Childhood Arterial Ischemic Stroke

## WHAT IS A CHILDHOOD ARTERIAL ISCHEMIC STROKE?



Childhood ischemic stroke is a condition where a child experiences damage to the brain that is caused by a lack of blood flow. Childhood stroke affects children who are 1 month to 18 years of age, and is different from neonatal stroke (under 30 days) and adult stroke (18 years and older). Our center works in collaboration with Children's Hospital Colorado to offer

personalized care, research and rehabilitation for children who have experienced stroke.

## WHAT CAUSES THIS?

This type of childhood stroke is caused by a lack of blood flow, oxygen and nutrients to the brain. The lack of blood flow is usually caused by a blood clot in the artery or narrowing in an artery. Childhood ischemic stroke can be caused by abnormalities in blood vessels in the brain or neck, clotting or bleeding disorders, sickle cell disease, heart disease, and rarely, metabolic/genetic conditions.

## WHAT TREATMENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

At our clinic, pediatric stroke patients will work with our team to:

- Find treatments to lower the risk of another event
- Facilitate recovery
- Provide emotional and psychological support

Our neurologists and hematologists often prescribe medications to decrease the risk of additional strokes. Recovery from the physical and cognitive damage from pediatric stroke is guided by our rehabilitation physicians and neuropsychologists. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy are resources that may be prescribed to assist recovery. Emotional and psychological recovery from stroke may be addressed by our staff psychologist and social work team.



Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center

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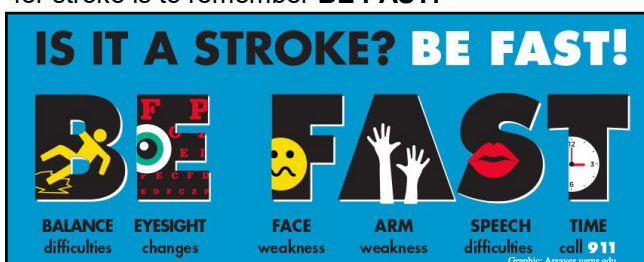
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## WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT FOR THE FUTURE?

Patients meet with our team every 3-12 months for an assessment and treatment recommendations. Each visit will be tailored to your child's needs, bringing the appropriate specialists to your team.

Be aware that that a childhood stroke can happen again. About 1 in 7 children with stroke will have a second event. Usually, the second event occurs within weeks of the first, and sometimes while still in the hospital during recovery. Families need to be ready for an event at home. A quick way to assess for stroke is to remember **BE FAST**:



**Children 14 years or older should go to an adult stroke center if there is one nearby.**

## WHAT OTHER TESTS MAY BE NEEDED?

A MRI of the brain with an MR angiogram of the head and neck is a common imaging test to assess the areas of damage and look for blood vessel abnormalities. An echocardiogram of the heart evaluates the structure of the heart. Blood tests may be ordered to screen for inflammatory causes of stroke or abnormal blood clotting. Metabolic or genetic testing may be ordered when rare metabolic or genetic causes of stroke are being considered.

## WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

### Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center at CU Anschutz Medical Campus

Our Clinic specializes in care for pediatric stroke including Childhood Arterial Ischemic Stroke. Contact us at the details below or see our website here: [medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc](https://medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc).

### Pediatric Stroke Parent Support Group

The Colorado Pediatric Stroke Parent Support Group provides programs that offer group support to patients and their families. Go to our website at [pedsstrokesupport.ucdenver.edu](https://pedsstrokesupport.ucdenver.edu) or email us at [strokesupport@ucdenver.edu](mailto:strokesupport@ucdenver.edu) for more information.

We are located in the CU Medicine Building at the Hemophilia and Thrombosis Center

13199 E. Montview Blvd., Suite 100, Aurora, CO 80045



Office Hours: M-F 8 am-4:30 pm  
Scheduler: 303-724-6158  
Questions for doctors or nurses: 720-777-6895  
Website: [medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc](https://medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc)



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