

Understanding Stroke Centers

What is a Primary Stroke Center?*

To be certified as a Primary Stroke Center, a hospital must meet the following criteria, according to the NJ Department of Health.

- Have a stroke team, which includes board-certified neurologists and radiologists
- Have neurology and Emergency Department personnel trained in diagnosing and treating stroke
- Offer neuroimaging services, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as well as rehabilitation services
- Maintain transfer arrangements with a Comprehensive Stroke Center in NJ
- Track outcomes for stroke patients
- Educate the public about strokes

What is a Comprehensive Stroke Center?*

Comprehensive Stroke Centers provide the same services as Primary Stroke Centers, in addition to:

- A neurosurgical team capable of assessing and treating complex stroke and stroke-like syndromes
- Neuroimaging services with digital subtraction angiography and a special procedures suite equipped for neuro-interventional procedures that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- Comprehensive rehabilitation services either on site or by transfer agreement with another healthcare facility
- The development of policies regarding ongoing evaluation and quality improvement activities by using data maintained by the center

● RWJBarnabas Health Primary Stroke Centers:

Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville
Community Medical Center, Toms River
Jersey City Medical Center, Jersey City
Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch
Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus, Lakewood
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset, Somerville
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway
Trinitas Regional Medical Center, Elizabeth

● RWJBarnabas Health Comprehensive Stroke Centers:

Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick

Stroke is a medical emergency. If you or someone you are with is experiencing the symptoms of stroke, call 911 immediately. Do not wait and do not drive them or yourself to the hospital. Call 911.

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rwjbh.org/stroke

Stroke Symptoms:

B **Balance**
Sudden loss of balance, or sudden onset dizziness



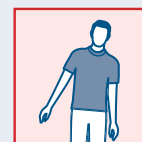
E **Eyes**
Sudden change in vision in one or both eyes



F **Face**
Sudden numbness or drooping on one side of the face



A **Arms**
Sudden numbness or weakness in the arms



S **Speech**
Sudden difficulty or slurring of speech



T **Terrible Headache**
Sudden terrible or "thunderclap" headache with no known cause



TIME is BRAIN
Every second counts during a stroke. Call 911 immediately if any of the above symptoms occur!

*Source: nj.gov