

## Statistics



Up to  
**400**  
Australian children  
have a stroke  
each year.



When a stroke  
strikes, it attacks  
up to  
**1.9 million**  
brain cells  
a minute.



**50%**  
of childhood survivors  
of stroke will have  
long-term  
neurological  
difficulties.

## More help



Find more information.  
[https://strokefoundation.org.au/  
childhoodstroke](https://strokefoundation.org.au/childhoodstroke)



Point your phone or tablet  
camera on this code. Click on  
the web address that appears.



StrokeLine can give you  
information, advice and support.  
The StrokeLine team are  
nurses and allied health professionals.  
StrokeLine is a free, confidential and  
practical service.

Call **1800 787 653**, Monday to  
Friday 9am to 5pm, Australian  
Eastern Standard Time. Email:  
[strokeline@strokefoundation.org.au](mailto:strokeline@strokefoundation.org.au)

Stroke Foundation thank Spencer's family for  
sharing their story and for their contribution to  
the development of this resource.

This resource was developed in collaboration  
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## Do you know the signs of childhood stroke?

Think F.A.S.T. Act *FAST*.  
Call 000 (triple zero).  
Time is critical.

## What is childhood stroke?

A stroke happens when blood cannot get to parts of your brain.

Blood flows through your blood vessels. Blood vessels are like tubes or pipes. Blood vessels can be blocked. They can break or burst. If blood cannot get through, brain cells start dying and your brain can be injured.

Stroke can happen at any age. Childhood stroke happens in a child aged from one month to eighteen years old.



## Spencer's story

Spencer had a stroke when he was almost two years old. He was at home, had a stumble and developed weakness on the right side of his body. He was leaning towards the right. Spencer's parents took him to the Emergency Department straight away.

He received rapid treatment at hospital, including a clot busting medicine to help unblock the blood vessel in his brain. Spencer has recovered well but still sees his neurologist regularly.

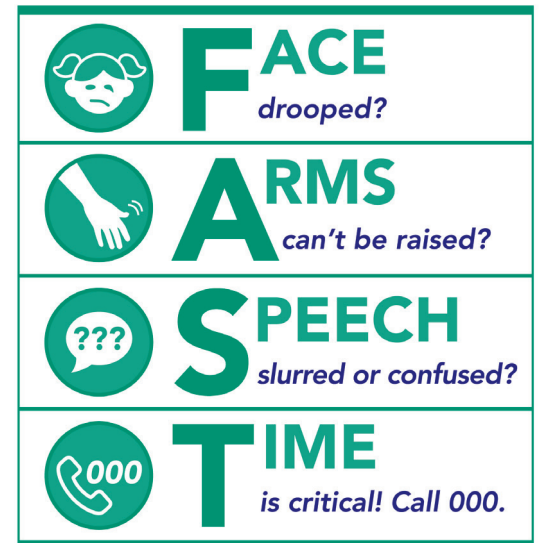
Spencer is one of the lucky ones – most people don't even consider stroke in children.

Time is critical to reducing the impact of stroke. Knowing the signs of stroke leads to faster treatment and saves lives.



## Learn the F.A.S.T. signs and other signs of stroke in children.

- › Weakness or numbness in the face, arm or leg, especially on one side.
- › Trouble talking or understanding.
- › Trouble seeing or vision loss.
- › Dizziness, loss of balance or poor coordination.
- › Severe, sudden headache, especially with nausea or vomiting.
- › Seizures with weakness that doesn't improve.
- › Loss of consciousness.
- › Trouble swallowing, including drooling.



If you see any of these signs act **FAST**. Call 000 (triple zero).