Cerebrovascular Accident (Stroke)

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Definition

• Cerebrovascular Accident - (CVA) (Stroke) - a focal neurological disorder caused by destruction of brain tissue as a result of Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Thrombosis, or Embolism

Incidence

• Third leading cause of Death in the U.S.
• Usually causes significant Disability
• The average age is 64 years old

Risk Factors

• Hypertension – Most Important
• Atherosclerotic Artery Disease
• Prior (CVA) or (TIA)
• Atrial Fibrillation

Signs and Symptoms

• Headache - will be Severe
• Dizziness and Vertigo
• Sweating and Chills
• Weakness or Paralysis* on One Side* of body
• Speech Defects*
• Unconsciousness is Ominous

TIA
## Definition

- **Transient Cerebral Ischemia** - (TIA) (Mini - Stroke) is a brief episode of cerebral ischemia that does not result in permanent neurological damage.

## (TIA)

- Temporary Stroke
- Less than 24 Hours
- Usually 2-60 Minutes
- No Neurological Damage
- Signifies significant cerebrovascular disease so expect a (CVA) soon.

## Signs and Symptoms

- Occurs abruptly with a fairly rapid recovery
- Presents as a transient numbness or weakness of the limbs on one side (pins and needles)
- Monocular Blindness
- Patient is conscious but their thought process may be dulled.

## Management

- **P** - Position - Comfortable
- **ABC**’s - Evaluate and give oxygen
- **D** - Definitive Treatment - convince patient to have a workup in the hospital because they are going to have a big stroke soon (call 911)

## Dental Considerations

- Know History (CVA)
- Post (CVA) - 6 months
- Take Blood Pressure
- Minimize Stress
- Watch Vasoconstrictor
- Bleeding Problems
Management

• **P** - Position - Comfortable
• **ABC’s** – Evaluate and give oxygen
• **D** - Definitive Treatment – call 911 as soon as possible because this patient needs to be in the hospital on thrombolytic drugs, take vital signs and support patient till ambulance arrives.

Management

• Loss of Consciousness is an ominous sign (usually fatal)
• **P** - Position - Supine
• **ABC’s** – are more important
• **D** – Definitive Treatment – Call 911, give Oxygen and try to keep patient alive till ambulance comes (BLS)

Management

• Entrance into the hospital is of utmost importance
• Window of Thrombolytic therapy is 6 hours (brain scan)
• Post (CVA) Sequelae can be greatly reduced

Sequelae

• 50% - **Die** after (CVA)
• 30% - Occlusive
• 50-80% - Hemorrhagic

• 10% - No Neurological Defect
• 40% - Mild Disability
• 50% - **Totally Disabled**

When a patient has a hemorrhagic stroke they usually **Die** or become **Totally Disabled** and this is the type that we cause

This is why we are so careful with blood pressure and use of epinephrine
Questions?