

Stroke care in Australia

Stroke is a time-critical medical emergency requiring coordinated care to ensure that life-saving treatment is provided in time. The updated national **Stroke Clinical Care Standard 2026** offers clear guidance on diagnosing and treating stroke, as well as follow-up care, to improve patient outcomes and quality of life.

NATIONAL DATA

Each year more than

46k

people have a stroke*



Every

11 minutes

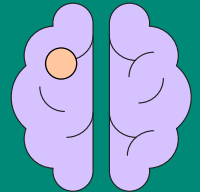
someone in Australia will have a stroke*



In 2024

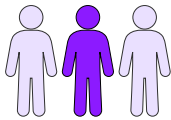
7,900

people died from stroke#



HEALTH IMPACT

1 in 3

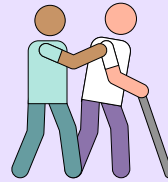


people who had a stroke reported moderate to severe disability[§]

Around

440k

people live with the effects of stroke*



People in regional Australia are

17% more likely

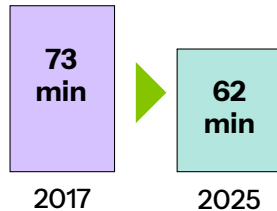
to suffer a stroke than those in metropolitan areas[†]



HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE

Speed to treatment is faster for clot-busting therapy[^]_{thrombolysis}

[^]thrombolysis

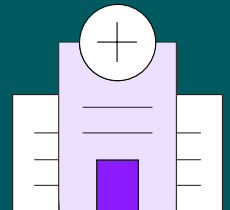


In 2024

79%

of stroke patients received stroke unit care[§]

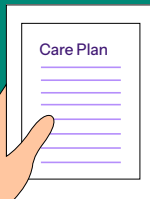
Up from 68% in 2016



In 2024

73% of stroke patients received a discharge care plan[§]

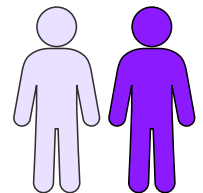
Up from 59% in 2015



Stroke recovery is lifelong

1 in 2 people report

- reduced mobility
- pain or discomfort
- anxiety and depression[§]



4 STEPS TO GOLD STANDARD STROKE CARE

1 Know the F.A.S.T. signs of stroke

Face - drooped
Arms - can't be raised
Speech - slurred or confused
Time - is critical

Call 000 if you see any of the signs.

2 Get to hospital immediately

Seek urgent medical care if you are having a stroke. Outcomes are dramatically improved with early recognition and rapid, coordinated care.

3 Start your rehab in hospital

Begin rehabilitation early to reduce the effects of stroke and improve your chances of returning to usual activities. Stroke recovery continues after discharge.

4 Work with your team of experts

After a stroke, you will need a team of different healthcare professionals. They will help you recover and provide assistance to you, your family and support people.