

# Cerebral haemorrhage / (Cerebral) Stroke (CVA)

## patiënteninformatie

Dear Sir/Madam,

You, or one of your family members, has suffered a cerebral haemorrhage or (cerebral) stroke. We call this a CVA (Cerebrovascular accident = *Cerebrovascular attack*). A literal translation means: an accident in the blood vessels of the brain.

### Types of CVA.

#### **A stroke**

Usually, in case of a stroke/CVA, it concerns a cerebral stroke. This is the case in 80% of the patients. It means that a blood vessel is blocked by a blood clot. It is also possible that a small blood vessel in the brain clogs up, for example as a result of arteriosclerosis. As a result, the brain receives too little oxygen.

#### **TIA**

If the symptoms have disappeared within 24 hours, we speak of a TIA (transient ischaemic attack).

#### **Cerebral haemorrhage**

In case of a cerebral haemorrhage a blood vessel erupts or tears in the brain. Consequently, the blood accumulates in the brain and the brain cells are damaged.

### What are the possible consequences of this?

The consequences of a CVA differ per person.

#### **The consequences depend on:**

- the **part of the brain** that has been damaged, for example the area in the brain that regulates speech or the area in the brain that regulates the functioning of arms and legs
- the **size of the damaged part of the brain** which is responsible for a certain function; the larger the damaged area, the more symptoms a person will continue to have
- the **health** of the patient: his or her condition and age

#### **The consequences may be:**

- unclear speech and difficulty with use of language (aphasia)
- difficulty swallowing
- paralyses or less of strength in arms and legs
- loss of a part of the field of vision
- lack of attention and concentration
- fatigue
- incontinence (undesired loss of urine or stools)
- sensory disorders
- cognitive disorders
- behavioural changes, changes in personality and/or character

### **Admission after a CVA**

If you are admitted to the ADRZ hospital with a CVA, you will be placed in the F ward, the *'stroke Unit'*. The stroke unit is a ward where you are checked with monitors. Your blood pressure, pulse, body temperature and heart rhythm are monitored by a nurse.

Moreover, a physiotherapist, an occupational therapist or a speech therapist will come to you to check if a treatment is necessary. Your own GP or neurologist can always contact the attending neurologist at the ADRZ hospital for more information.

### **Contact**

During the admission, you can always contact the Neurology ward on telephone number 0031 113 234400.

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's-Gravenpolderseweg 114  
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T 0113-234000

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