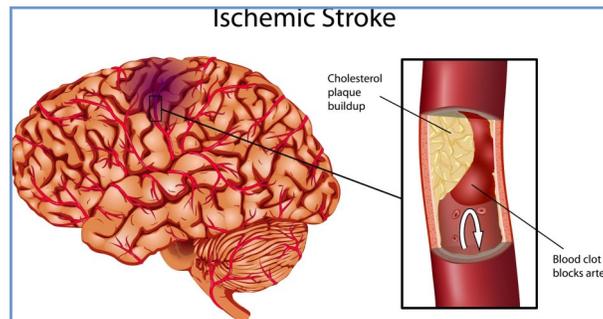


Treatment for Ischemic Stroke: Alteplase (tPA)

We believe that you may be having an ischemic stroke. Alteplase (tPA) is a drug that we can give you to help treat your stroke. We hope that this medication will provide you with the best chance to recover from your stroke.

What is a Stroke?

An ischemic stroke is the most common type of stroke. Most of the time, it is caused by a blood clot. This blood clot blocks the flow of blood to an area of the brain. When blood flow to the brain is blocked, it can cause brain cells to die. A CT Scan will be done to make sure that there is no bleeding in the brain.



What is the medication?

Alteplase, also called tPA, is a medication that dissolves blood clots. It is commonly called a 'clot-buster'.

How is the medication given?

The medicine is given through your IV. Part of the medication will be given over one minute. The rest will be given over an hour. You will need to be watched closely for the first 24 hours after you get tPA.

What are the benefits of the medicine?

More patients who have a stroke and get tPA will have little or no disability at 3 months.

What are the risks of the medicine?

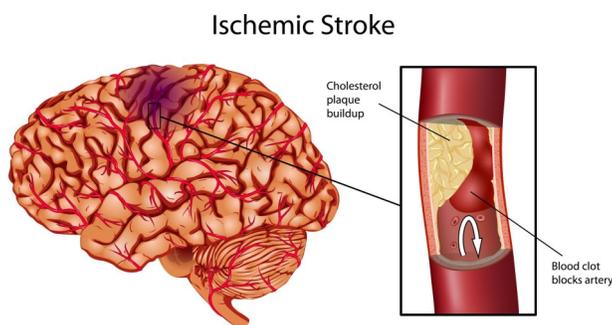
There is a risk of bleeding with this drug. In about 6% of patients, bleeding in the brain can happen. This may cause more injury.

Treatment for Ischemic Stroke: Clot Retrieval Procedure

We believe that you may be having an ischemic stroke. Through a clot retrieval procedure, we can attempt to remove the blood clot that we believe is causing your stroke.

What is a Stroke?

An ischemic stroke is the most common type of stroke. Most of the time, it is caused by a blood clot. This blood clot blocks the flow of blood to an area of the brain. When blood flow to the brain is blocked, it can cause brain cells to die. A CT Scan will be done to make sure that there is no bleeding in the brain. This scan will also help us to find out if you may be a candidate for a clot retrieval procedure.



What is a Clot Retrieval Procedure?

During this procedure, a thin, flexible tube (catheter) is placed into a blood vessel in your groin. This allows for dye to be injected to see your brain vessels. Through this catheter, a device can be inserted to retrieve the blood clot.

What are the benefits of the procedure?

More patients who have a stroke and a clot retrieval procedure will have little or no disability at 3 months.

What are the risks of the procedure?

There is a risk of bleeding with this procedure. Most common areas for bleeding include the brain and groin area where the catheter was placed.