ACUTE ISCHEMIC STROKE: What You Need to Know about Acute Ischemic Stroke Treatment
An acute ischemic stroke occurs as a result of obstructed blood flow in a blood vessel to the brain.
Every second counts in preventing brain damage!
ACUTE ISCHEMIC STROKE TREATMENT:

Dissolve clot with tissue plasminogen activator alteplase (IV r-tPA).

The benefits of IV alteplase are greatest when given as quickly as possible. Time is brain!

**Benefits**
- For patients who can be treated within 3 hours of stroke onset, alteplase (IV r-tPA) can lead to better recovery after stroke.
- For select patients who are eligible to be treated up to 4.5 hours after stroke onset, alteplase (IV r-tPA) can also improve outcomes.
- Alteplase (IV r-tPA) has been proven to save lives and decrease disability when administered in a timely manner.

**Risks**
- Bleeding of the brain, gums or other tissues are major risks.
ACUTE ISCHEMIC STROKE TREATMENT:

Remove larger clots with a stent retriever (eligible patients only).

Patients **should** receive alteplase (IV r-tPA) before being considered eligible for mechanical thrombectomy treatment (use of stent retriever), which removes large blood clots that cause acute ischemic stroke.

**Benefits**
- For select patients who are eligible to be treated up to 24 hours after stroke onset, mechanical thrombectomy has proven to be effective in lowering disability from stroke.

**Risks**
- Bleeding (the most common associated risk)
- Tearing of the inner lining of the blood vessel
Your medical professional can tell you which treatment options you are eligible for and address any concerns you may have.
For more information on stroke, visit: StrokeAssociation.org