## Signs & symptoms

- sudden decrease in level of consciousness
- weakness or paralysis, especially on one side of the body
- feeling of numbness in face, arm or leg
- difficulty speaking or understanding
- unexplained dizziness
- disturbed vision
- loss of balance
- confusion

## Management

1. Follow DRSABCD.

2. Calm and reassure the patient.

   - Conscious patient
     - support head and shoulders on pillows
     - loosen tight clothing
     - maintain body temperature
     - wipe away secretions from mouth
     - ensure airway is clear and open.

   - Unconscious patient
     - place in recovery position.

3. Ensure call for an ambulance has been made (triple zero 000).

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**National Stroke Foundation**

www.strokefoundation.com.au

If you recognise the signs of STROKE act FAST

- **Facial** weakness
- **Arm** weakness
- **Speech** difficulty
- **Time** to act fast

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