Pediatric stroke can happen in infants, children and even before birth.

**STROKES CAN HAPPEN AT ANY AGE**

**PERINATAL STROKE**
Last few months of pregnancy to 1-month-old

- The cause in most perinatal strokes remains unknown.
- Risk factors that could lead to stroke include:
  - Congenital heart disease
  - Diseases affecting the brain's arteries
  - Infections affecting the brain or other organs

**CHILDCHOOD STROKE**
1-month-old to 18 years

- Risk factors in children ≠ Risk factors in older adults
- Risk factors for children include:
  - Head trauma
  - Sickle cell disease
  - Autoimmune disorders

- No previous risk factor is identified in about half of childhood stroke cases.

**RISK FACTORS**

**WARNING SIGNS**

**NEWBORNS:**
Seizures may be an early sign:
- Repetitive twitching of face, arm or leg
- Apnea (pauses in breathing) associated with staring

**DEVELOPING CHILDREN:**
- Decreased movement or weakness on one side of the body
- Showing a hand preference, or consistently reaching out with only one hand before 1 year of age

**STROKE SIGNS** ➔ **FAST**
- **FACE** Drooping
- **ARM** Weakness
- **SPEECH** Difficulty
- **TIME TO CALL 911**

**ADDITIONAL SIGNS IN CHILDREN INCLUDE:**
- Severe sudden headache, especially with vomiting and sleepiness
- Weakness or numbness on one side of the body difficulty speaking or understanding others
- Vision loss or double vision
- Severe dizziness or loss of coordination
- New-onset of seizures usually on one side of the body

**TIME IS BRAIN AT ANY AGE**

**NEWBORNS:**
Quick recognition ➔ Prompt medical evaluation and treatment

**BABIES:**
Early diagnosis ➔ Rehabilitation treatment can start while a young brain is still developing

**DON’T DELAY!**
Prompt diagnosis and treatment of stroke in children is as critical as it is in adults.

Learn more at iapediatricstroke.org and StrokeAssociation.org

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