Triage Acute Stroke

1 RECOGNIZE the symptoms of stroke, and those that may be easily missed.
   - Ask if symptom onset was sudden.1
   - Determine the time the patient was last known well.2
   - Look for common symptoms.3

   | BALANCE | Watch for dizziness or loss of balance. |
   | EYES    | Check for vision loss or double vision. |
   | FACE    | Look for uneven smile.                  |
   | ARM     | Check if one arm or leg is weak.        |
   | SPEECH  | Listen for slurred speech or difficulty speaking. |
   | TIME    | Begin triage immediately.               |

2 CHECK any that apply to your patient.

   Symptoms that may be easily missed.1
   - Difficulty Walking
   - Dizziness
   - Seizure
   - Syncope (Fainting)
   - Headache
   - Nausea/Vomiting

   Posterior strokes can be more difficult to identify.4 Common symptoms, include:
   - Dizziness
   - Dysarthria (Difficulty speaking)
   - Dystaxia (Lack of coordination)
   - Diplopia (Double vision)
   - Dysphagia (Difficulty swallowing)

3 REVIEW all stroke symptoms to assess for disability.

   - Y N Do your patients consider any of their symptoms to be disabling?
   - Y N Are they ambulatory?
   - Y N Can they hold or understand a conversation?

4 RESPOND QUICKLY if a stroke is expected.

   Make sure to activate a stroke code by calling:
   MercyOne Connect
   515-643-2071

Information provided by Genentech USA, Inc.
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