# Acting with Expediency: Medication as the Cornerstone of Stroke Prevention and Treatment

Pharmacy Technician Post-test

Pharmacy Technician Objectives:

1. DISCUSS the basic facts about stroke
2. RECOGNIZE the signs of stroke and refer patients to emergency care
3. LIST ways to encourage stroke patients to adhere to medication regimens and healthy lifestyles
4. IDENTIFY when patients require pharmacist counseling

**1. A ruptured blood vessel best describes what type of stroke?**

A. Acute ischemic stroke

B. Transient ischemic attack

C. Hemorrhagic stroke

**2. What does the acronym FAST stand for?**

A. Fall recently, Abdominal pain, Speech difficulty, Time to call 911

B. Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty, Time to call 911

C. Fatigue, Atrial fibrillation, Spasticity in extremities, Time to call 911

**3. Todd, a 75 year old man, picks up his prescriptions every month at your pharmacy. He survived an acute ischemic stroke two years ago, but that did not change his favorite pastime, cracking jokes with the pharmacy staff. Today, as you are ringing out his blood pressure and cholesterol-lowering medication, he tells you “I don’t even know why I take this stuff, I feel perfectly fine. You can cancel these prescriptions; I won’t be picking them up anymore. I will still come to visit you here though, don’t worry!” Which of the following is the BEST WAY for you to proceed?**

A. Tell Todd these are very important medications and that if you delete the prescriptions, the doctor will have to send in new prescriptions.

B. Explain to Todd that these medications help keep his heart healthy and you will not delete them, because he needs to take them.

C. Complete the transaction, then refer Todd to the consultation window, so the pharmacist can further counsel Todd on these medications.

**4. Which of the following lists components of “Life’s Simple 7” as defined by AHA/ASA?**

A. Smoking cessation, physical activity, controlled cholesterol

B. Controlled blood pressure, regular exercise, healthy body weight

C. Mental health, controlled blood sugar, alcohol avoidance

**5. Your friend calls you in a panic because she thinks her dad is having a stroke and she knows you work in the pharmacy. She says he cannot lift one of his arms, half of his face is drooping, and he cannot form a sentence. How could you BEST help?**

A. Tell her to call 911 immediately, explain to the EMTs his symptoms and the time of onset

B. Tell her you will call her back, because you need to google the closest stroke-certified center

C. Tell her you are on your way, and you will drive him to the nearest emergency room

**6. Gianna, a 67 year old female, drops off an atorvastatin prescription at the pharmacy. As you enter the prescription data into the computer, you notice it is dated four months ago. You politely ask the patient, “Were you aware this prescription is from April?” Gianna replies, “Yes, I had a stroke and I just haven’t gotten around to filling it yet.” What is the best way to improve the likelihood that she adheres to therapy moving forward?**

A. Call the pharmacist over immediately. Gianna might not want to fill the prescription after discussing the risk and benefits at this time.

B. Tell Gianna that this medication may help prevent future strokes. Continue to fill the prescription, then ring her out at the register.

C. Let the pharmacist know about the interaction you had with Gianna. Upon dispensing, the pharmacist can counsel the patient.

**7. What is the MOST SIGNIFICANT risk factor for stroke?**

A. Hypertension

B. Smoking

C. Diabetes

**8. Which region of the United States reports the highest stroke mortality rates?**

A. Northeastern

B. Southeastern

C. Northwestern

**9. Which of the following resources allows you to print handouts for patients who may not be technology-savvy?**

A. Heartcare Channel

B. Stroke and You Series

C. Stroke Hero Toolkit

**10. Which of the following lists the classes of medication usually used for secondary stroke prevention?**

A. Antihypertensives, antibiotics, cholesterol-lowering agents

B. Antiplatelets, anticoagulants, antidepressants

C. Antihypertensives, antiplatelets, cholesterol-lowering agents